

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOI/PA
DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET
FOI/PA# 1179375-1

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NOTICE

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WDB:djw
40-35600

October 11, 1943

TO: VISA DIVISION, DEPARTMENT OF STATE

In connection with the below entitled visa applicant case the files of the Federal Bureau of Investigation reflect the following information.

Very truly yours,

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

J. E. Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director

SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT

ATTENTION: MR. TRAVERS

TITLE: ⁰ANIRE SINGER; LUCIE JEANNE SINGER—
Visa Applicants
MICHAEL WHITNEY STRAIGHT; BEATRICE W.
STRAIGHT—Sponsors
PASSPORTS AND VISAS

MICHAEL WHITNEY STRAIGHT
1721 I Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C.
Sponsor

Reference is made to your letter of October 15, 1942, your reference VD 811.111 Singer, Andre, in which you request to be advised upon the completion of our investigation of Michael Whitney Straight, sponsor in instant case.

Our investigation of this individual has been closed inasmuch as the subject entered the Armed Forces of the United States in the Air Force Enlisted Reserve Corps.

RECORDED

40-35600-4

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
OCT 13 1943
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Tolson
E. A. Tamm
Clegg
Coffey
Glavin
Ladd
Nichols
Rosen
Tracy
Acers
Carson
Harbo
Hendon
Mumford
Starke
Quinn Tamm
Nease
Gandy

OCT 15 1943 P.M.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

AA-639 suppl.

OCT 15 1943

4115072

12

PERSONAL ATTE

SAC, NEW YORK

12/19/57

DIRECTOR, FBI

42443

Please have a fully qualified experienced Special Agent personally deliver the attached material to Honorable Herbert Hoover, Apartment 31-A, The Waldorf-Astoria Towers, 50th and Park Avenue, New York.

Mr. Hoover should be advised that this completes the check of the seventy-eight names he submitted. Please advise the Bureau when this has been done. You should also extend my very best wishes and kind regards to Mr. Hoover.

Enclosures - 3.9

ERC:DMG
(4)

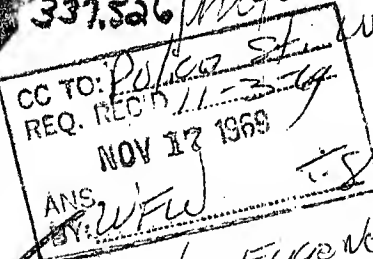
ENCLOSURE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7-8-92 BY 9803RDD/AL

337,526 7-8-92
Reviewed pgs 33 & 34 only

RECORDED - 82

INDEXED - 82



Alvah Eugene Staley

Tolson _____
Nichols _____
Boardman _____
Belmont _____
Mohr _____
Parsons _____
Rosen _____
Tamm _____
Trotter _____
Nease _____
Winterrowd _____
Tele. Room _____
Holloman _____
Gandy _____

60 JAN 6 1958

114994

IMPORTANT

ADDITIONAL PERTINENT INFORMATION

IN DISCLOSURE SERIAL

(SEE SECT. 4)

1-original
1-yellow
1-Liaison Section
1-Mr. Huelskamp
4-copies

DEC 18 1957

~~**SECRET**~~

MICHAEL WHITNEY STRAIGHT
Editor, "New Republic"

Michael Whitney Straight was born on September 1, 1916, in Southampton, New York. During the period 1932 to 1938, he attended the London School of Economics and Cambridge University, both in England. In 1938, he returned to the United States and held positions in the Department of State and the Department of the Interior. He resigned from Government service in 1941 and became the Washington correspondent for the "New Republic." In June, 1943, he became editor of the above magazine. Mr. Straight served in the United States Army Air Force from 1943 to 1945. (100-61929-49)

Allegedly, while attending Cambridge University, Michael Straight was a supporter of the Communist Party in England, was in contact and associated with individuals active in the Communist Party youth movement at Cambridge University, and made several trips to the U.S.S.R. An associate during that period described Michael Straight as a "liberal" and advised that in his opinion Straight was not a member of the Communist Party or under Communist Party discipline while at Cambridge University. (100-414112-2)

In the past, Michael Straight has acted as a sponsor, speaker, or has participated in activities of organizations designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450, such as the American Peace Mobilization, the North American Spanish Aid Committee, the Washington Bookshop Association, and the Committee for a Democratic Far Eastern Policy. Mr. Straight has also had similar associations with organizations cited by national or state legislative committees, such as the American Committee in Aid of Chinese Industrial Cooperatives and the Institute of Pacific Relations. (100-61929-43; 62-36202-58)

In October, 1946, Mr. Straight hired Henry Wallace as the editor of "New Republic." He opposed Wallace's third-party movement and particularly Wallace's acceptance of communist support. Wallace resigned from the "New Republic" in April, 1948.

ORIGINAL TO HERBERT HOOVER, SR.
B.L. HUELSKAMP:nck (8)

~~**SECRET**~~

MAIL ROOM ☐

ENCLOSURE

114995

MICHAEL WHITNEY STRAIGHT

~~SECRET~~

As early as 1945, Michael Straight was active in the activities of the American Veterans Committee. The November 28, 1949, issue of the "Chicago Daily News," Chicago, Illinois, reported that the anti-communist forces were in control of the American Veterans Committee and that Michael Straight had led the "right wing" forces to victory. (100-61929)

The December 6, 1952, issue of the "Times-Herald," Washington, D. C., reported that Michael Straight, president of the William C. Whitney Foundation, was questioned before a special committee of the United States House of Representatives investigating tax-exempt foundations. According to the article, Mr. Straight was questioned concerning \$19,000 in grants by the Foundation which were made to organizations "cited as subversive or Communist fronts. Straight contended that none of these organizations was known to be a Communist front at the time grants were given and said they were cut off when so listed."

(100-385355-A) In an article entitled "The Right Way to Beat Communism" in the "New Republic," dated May 1, 1950, Michael Straight stated: "Ultimate aims and short-term aims can never be separated, and in the case of Communists and Liberals are in basic conflict. Nor are there good and bad Communists. The Communist Party is a recruiting ground for subversion and espionage. Whoever joins it, either through guilty conscience or idealism, ends by losing all conscience and all ideals."

(100-61929-51) In 1955, Michael Straight was listed as a signer of a petition for amnesty for Smith Act victims which was sent to the President. (100-392047-111)

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DIRECTOR, FBI

January 9, 1950

GUY HOTTEL, SAC, WASHINGTON FIELD

UNKNOWN SUBJECT was. ALES
(SOVINE)
ESPIONAGE - R
(Bufile 65-59567)

65-15500

Rebuletts to Washington Field Office dated July 7, 1950, and November 25, 1950.

In referenced letter of July 7, 1950, the Bureau advised [redacted] furnished information that it was reported that for the last few years (prior to 1945) ALES had been working with FIELD, who was in contact with other members of the group. This letter further pointed out that the FIELD mentioned could possibly be NOEL FIELD and that NOEL FIELD had been abroad, first with the League of Nations and subsequently with the Unitarian Service Committee most of the time since 1937.

b3

On April 11, 1950, Mr. FORREST DAVIS was interviewed by Special Agent SEYMOR REED PHILLIPS at his residence, 2346 Massachusetts Avenue N.W., Washington, D.C. in connection with another investigation. At this time Mr. DAVIS stated that "BILL BULLITT" had advised him that when he was our ambassador at Paris, France about 1939 the premier of France (Mr. DAVIS could not recall the premier's name) had advised him (Mr. BULLITT) that the Department of State had two brothers named HISS who were soviet agents. Mr. DAVIS stated that Mr. BULLITT had advised him the premier had advised that this information had come to his attention in connection with a report of the French Surete. The above information was set out on page 22 and 23 of the report of Special Agent HOWARD FLETCHER, JR. made at Washington Field on October 28, 1950 in this case. Bureau referenced letter of November 25, 1950, pointed out that Mr. WILLIAM BULLITT was interviewed and that the results were set out in the report of Special Agent FRANCIS D. O'BRIEN dated October 7, 1949 at Boston entitled "J. DAVID WITTAKER CHAMBERS, was.; Perjury; Espionage - R; Internal Security - R." At the time of this interview as set out in the above referred to report, Mr. BULLITT did not set out the source of the information he had received regarding the HISS brothers. Mr. BULLITT did approximate the time that he was furnished this information as being around 1939. The New York Times of December 28, 1949 on page 18, column 2, carried an article pertaining to the second ALGER HISS trial. This article reported that on December 27 ALGER HISS had identified a friendly letter that he had written on May 7, 1948 to NOEL FIELD who had been identified earlier in the HISS Perjury trial as a leader

cc: New York

WF:plb
65-5533

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FBI - NEW YORK	

Tully *ERT*

114997

Ltr. to Director
RE: UNKNOWN SUBJECT was. ALGER
(SOVIE)
ESPIONAGE - R

January 9, 1950

"With all best wishes to you and Herta.

"Ever sincerely yours,

s/ Alger Hiss."

This article in the Times also related that the Hiss letter suggested that Mr. FIELD write to MICHAEL STRAIGHT of the New Republic.

The Bureau is requested, through its established sources in Paris, France, to determine if the French Surete have any information in addition to that in their files which would prove that ALGER HISS or "the HISS brothers" were connected with soviet agents in that country and especially to secure any information which would show that the HISS were in contact with NOEL FIELD during the few years prior to 1945.

The Bureau is also requested to authorize the New York Office to interview Mrs. FREDERICK A. MUEHLICK, 46 Walworth Avenue, Scarsdale, New York, who is the former wife of LAURENCE DUGGAN. When Mrs. MUEHLICK was interviewed on October 24, 1950 in connection with the case entitled "UNKNOWN SUBJECT was. AL, Albert (SOVIE); Espionage - R", she advised that she and LAURENCE DUGGAN, her former husband, and the FIELDS were very closely acquainted in 1933 when they lived in the same house in Washington, D.C. It is felt that inasmuch as Mrs. MUEHLICK was formerly closely associated with the FIELDS and that Mr. NOEL FIELD had used LAURENCE DUGGAN in 1948 as a means through which to reach ALGER HISS that she could possibly furnish valuable information in proving or disproving the fact that ALGER HISS and possibly his brother, DONALD HISS, were in contact with NOEL FIELD in the years preceding 1945 when NOEL FIELD was in Europe. When such interview has been authorized, the New York Office is requested to interview Mrs. MUEHLICK to establish the degree of association or communication between ALGER HISS and NOEL FIELD after he went overseas around 1937.

Ltr. to Director
RE: UNKNOWN SUBJECT was. ALGER
(SOVIE)
ESPIONAGE - R

January 9, 1950

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"Ever sincerely yours,

s/ Alger Hiss."

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NY 65-16090

The information dated 9/15/45, starts off with some unknown statement relating to the Communist Party (CP). Nothing much can be gleaned from this fragmentary reference other than it suggests the possibility that a connection existed between DAN's intelligence work and the CP. In WFO letter dated 7/8/65, the possibility was pointed out that the relationship between the MGB and DAN was predicated on his recruitment and operation through the CP Apparatus. MICHAEL STRAIGHT was cited as an example of this type of recruitment and operation.

The information reflects that DAN returned from the Army to Washington at the beginning of 1945, that something unknown occurred and an agreement was made (presumably with DAN) about continuing the work on the collection of intelligence in England. Although there is a possibility that DAN was discharged from the Army in early 1945, no such conclusion is justified on the available facts, and DAN could have remained in the Army after his return to Washington. In consideration of the fact that the information dealt with the US and England, it can reasonably be inferred that DAN was serving or had served in either the British or American Army. In view of DAN's return to Washington, D.C., from the Army, it appears likely that he served in the American Army. However, the fact that this information was directed to the MGB in London, and the words "continuing the work" were used might indicate otherwise.

In summary it can be stated that DAN had served or was serving in either the British or American Army, that he had previously been in Washington, D.C., and that he had returned to the latter city in early 1945. The statement concerning the agreement to continue the work on the collection of intelligence in England probably indicates that DAN had previously furnished intelligence on England, obtained either by reason of some position DAN had occupied in England or the US, or because DAN has some important contact or contacts in England or the US, who could furnish him this type of information. On the other hand, it is not beyond the

NY 65-16090

realm of possibility that this statement merely means that the NGB had been receiving intelligence information from DAN in the US, and that he had agreed to furnish similar information while he was in England. In other words, that the NGB would continue to collect intelligence information from DAN while he was in England.

MICHAEL STRAIGHT advised in interviews that he had enlisted in the USAP Enlisted Reserve Corps on 11/24/42, and remained in that service until 1946. However, various issues of "Who's Who in America", reflect that he served as a pilot in the AAP in 1943-1945. It, therefore, does not appear that STRAIGHT was discharged from the Army Air Force in early 1945. However, he could easily have served as a pilot until early 1945, and then could have returned to Washington, D.C., in some type of administrative capacity for the Air Corps, possibly even as a liaison officer with the British Air Force. This appears to be a distinct possibility since it is known that he had important contacts in both England and the US. This will become quite clear in information which will be subsequently set out concerning his brother, WHITNEY WILLARD STRAIGHT, and the rest of his family. The question is whether MICHAEL STRAIGHT has told us the complete story of his involvement in espionage. There are indications that he may not have done so. He has told us of his espionage contacts up to the autumn of 1942, or shortly before he entered the AAP. He mentioned no espionage contacts while he was in service. He stated that in 1946, after leaving the Air Force, he visited England where he saw ANTHONY BLUNT and GUY BURGESS. He claimed to have told these individuals that he had grown up and was completely disillusioned with the Communist movement. He advised that both BLUNT and BURGESS were hostile and tense. It is noted that BLUNT had recruited STRAIGHT for Soviet espionage and that BURGESS was known to STRAIGHT as a Soviet

NY 65-16090

agent. The reason for this meeting and the question of who initiated it, remain unanswered. It appears likely that Communism was not the only topic of conversation at this meeting and that possibly HUNT and BURGESS tried to reactivate STRAIGHT in Soviet Intelligence operations.

The significance of the instructions to the NIS in London not to disclose to DAN the importance of the intelligence, and the observation that DAN had probably guessed about it cannot be definitely determined. However, an intelligent guess would be that it referred to the atomic bomb which was dropped on Hiroshima, Japan, on 8/6/45. How this interpretation would apply to MICHAEL STRAIGHT is unknown. It is noted, however, that "Who's Who in America", reflects that in 1946-1947, MICHAEL STRAIGHT was Secretary of the Emergency Committee of Atomic Scientists. This Committee was organized in May, 1946, by ALBERT EINSTEIN to help arouse the world to the dangers of atomic weapons, and to call for international control of atomic energy. Among prominent members of this Committee were Prof. HANS A. BETHE, Dr. SEWARD D. CONDON, Prof. LEO T. SZILARD and Prof. HAROLD C. UREY. If this Committee had been formed prior to 9/15/45, this information might be quite significant. However, it still may indicate that MICHAEL STRAIGHT was acquainted with one or more of the Committee members and that the NIS was considering the exploitation of this relationship.

It is obvious from the remaining information that DAN either was in England as of 9/15/45, or it was contemplated that he would go to England. It is noted that there is no indication that the intended meeting took place, or when it was scheduled to take place after 9/15/45. It is known that the NIS has on occasions set up meetings more than six months in advance. MICHAEL STRAIGHT has admitted visiting England sometime in 1946. This could have been when the proposed

NY 65-16090

meeting was to take place, also, there is a possibility that the original meeting was postponed. If plans for the meeting were changed, it is not illogical to assume that a meeting between STRAIGHT and the Soviet agents BLUNT and BURGESS was substituted. The original suggestions for sending ALAN with DAN, presumably to the meet, appears to have been a highly unusual procedure for the MGB. However, it might be understandable for Moscow to recommend having BLUNT, or possibly BURGESS, accompany STRAIGHT to the proposed meeting. It is, therefore, conceivable that ALAN could be identical with BLUNT or BURGESS.

Previous consideration has been given to the possibility that DAN mentioned on 9/15/45, was identical with "DAN" mentioned in [redacted] information dated 6/24/43. However, by letter dated 5/20/66, the Bureau advised that the source had come to believe that the word "DAN" in the information dated 6/24/43, did not refer to an individual, but rather to something concerning a characteristic of an airplane. While honoring the source's belief, it should be noted that the information dated 6/24/43, may take on added significance if MICHAEL STRAIGHT is considered a suspect. The 1943 information concerned the development and production of aircraft in the US and England. An unintelligible reference to "DAN" was immediately followed by a description of the English Merlin (Rolls Royce) engine.

b3

In order to cast this matter in its true perspective, the following information is being set out concerning the STRAIGHT family. In the first place, it is an important and influential family which has roots in both the US and England. MICHAEL's mother was a sister of HARRY PAYNE WHITNEY and is a millionairess in her own right. Her first husband, WILLARD STRAIGHT, died during World War I. They had three children. WHITNEY WILLARD STRAIGHT was born in 1912, MICHAEL WHITNEY STRAIGHT in 1916, and BEATRICE STRAIGHT COCKSON date of birth unknown.

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NY 65-16090

It is of significance to note that WFO files reflect WHITNEY STRAIGHT visited Moscow in February, 1963, and talked with GUY BURGESS, who appeared glad to see him.

Aside from the possibility that WHITNEY STRAIGHT may himself have been involved in Soviet espionage, it appears likely that the KGB would have knowledge of, and an interest in him. This is concluded because of his apparent position of importance in British aviation and the fact that his brother was a Soviet agent, his sister was married to a suspected Soviet agent, and he obviously was fairly well-acquainted with the Soviet agent BURGESS.

Since a review of STRAIGHT's military personnel records will probably not completely resolve this matter, it is suggested that the KFO and Bureau review files for any indications of the whereabouts and activities of MICHAEL and WHITNEY STRAIGHT in 1943-1946. It is also suggested that the WFO check US passport records on MICHAEL STRAIGHT, the Visa Division of the State Department on WHITNEY STRAIGHT and any other pertinent records which might disclose information concerning departures of MICHAEL STRAIGHT from the US and arrivals of WHITNEY STRAIGHT in the US from 1943 through 1946.

TO: SAC,

☐ Albany
☐ Albuquerque
☐ Anchorage
☐ Atlanta
☐ Baltimore
☐ Birmingham
☐ Boston
☐ Buffalo
☐ Butte
☐ Charlotte
☐ Chicago
☐ Cincinnati
☐ Cleveland
☐ Columbia
☐ Dallas
☐ Denver
☐ Detroit
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☐ Savannah
☐ Seattle
☐ Springfield

☐ Tampa
☒ Washington Field
☐ Quantico

TO LEGAT:

☐ Bern
☐ Bonn
☐ Buenos Aires
☐ Hong Kong
☐ London
☐ Manila
☐ Mexico, D.F.
☐ Ottawa
☐ Paris
☐ Rome
☐ Santo Domingo
☐ Tokyo

Date July 19, 1968

RE:

UNSUB; AKA DAN
(SOVME)
ESP-R

☒ For information ☐ Retention optional ☒ For appropriate action ☐ Surep, by _____

☐ The enclosed is for your information. If used in a future report, ☐ conceal all sources, ☐ paraphrase contents.

☐ Enclosed are corrected pages from report of SA _____ dated _____

Remarks:

COMBINE RESULTS OF CHECK REQUESTED IN BULET
6-6-68 IN ABOVE CAPTIONED CASE WITH REQUEST IN
BULET 7-9-68 IN CASE ENTITLED "MICHAEL WHITNEY
STRAIGHT-MISC. INFO. CONC."

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUL 22 1968	
FBI - NEW YORK	

Roettinger

Enc.

Bufile 65-61067

Urfile 65-16090

65-16090-46 115007



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20535

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

St. Louis, Missouri 63177

August 1, 1968

MICHAEL WHITNEY STRAIGHT

*corrected
no 17
from Bu
8/15/68
LW*
A review of the file of Michael Whitney Straight, Army Serial Numbers 13 105 244 and 0-825 321, at the Military Personnel Records Center, St. Louis, Missouri, indicates that on November 24, 1942, he enlisted in the United States Army Air Corps, Enlisted Réserve Corps, at Washington, D.C. He was called to and reported for active duty for training on February 2, 1942, at Washington, D.C. He received an honorable discharge on March 11, 1944, as an Aviation Cadet at Columbus, Mississippi, by reason to accept a command.

He received an appointment as a Second Lieutenant and reported for active duty on March 12, 1944, at Columbus, Mississippi. He was relieved from active duty on October 28, 1945, at Randolph Field, Texas.

The records indicated he was in a terminal leave and/or travel time duty status from September 20, 1945 to October 28, 1945.

He received an appointment as a Second Lieutenant on September 21, 1945, in the United States Army Officer's Reserve Corps at Randolph Field, Texas, and served in an inactive status until April 1, 1953, at which time his appointment was terminated by reason of declination of an indefinite term.

The following base unit assignments were noted:

Washington, D.C. (February 2, 1943)
AAFTTC, Miami, Florida (February 4, 1943 - March 7, 1943)
Marietta College, Marietta, Ohio (March 9, 1943 - May 15, 1943)
Nashville Army Air Center, Nashville, Tennessee
(May 16, 1943 - July 1, 1943)
AAFSETC, Maxwell Field, Alabama (July 2, 1943 -
August 30, 1943)
AAFTD, Albany, Georgia (August 31, 1943 - November 3, 1943)
AAFBFS, Greenwood, Mississippi (November 4, 1943 -
January 16, 1944)
Columbus Army Air Field, Columbus, Mississippi
(January 16, 1944 - March 11, 1944)
Gunter Field, Montgomery, Alabama (March 15, 1944 -
October 8, 1944)

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FBI - NEW YORK	

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65-16090-47

Michael Whitney Straight

Bryan, Texas (October 9, 1944 - November 15, 1944)
Lincoln Army Air Field, Lincoln, Nebraska
(November 24, 1944 - March 17, 1945)
(Temporary duty for training at Lockbourne Army
Air Base, Columbus, Ohio January 15, 1945 -
March 17, 1945)
Army Air Base, Rapid City, South Dakota (March 18,
1945 - June 30, 1945 and July 1, 1945 - July 25, 1945)
Randolph Field, Texas (July 25, 1945 - September 20,
1945).

It is noted that the above are base units to which he
was assigned; that his occupation was listed as a pilot with over
1000 flying hours in single, two and four engine ships; and that
the exact dates and locations of the flights were not shown.

The record contains letters of recommendation regarding
his acceptance as an Aviation Cadet in the United States Army Air
Corps from the following:

Abe Fortas, Under Secretary, United States Department of
the Interior, Washington, D.C., dated October 21, 1942.

Wm. S. Youngman, Jr., President, China Defense Supplies,
Incorporated, 1601 V Street, North West, Washington, D.C., dated
October 17, 1942.

Frank Ross McCoy, Major General, United States Army
Retired, President of Foreign Policy Association, Incorporated,
22 East 38th Street, New York, dated October 9, 1942.

The following additional descriptive and background in-
formation is contained in the record:

Date and place of birth	September 1, 1916, Southampton, Long Island, New York
Education	Cambridge University, Cambridge, England (1934-1937); London School of Economics, London, England (1934).

Michael Whitney Straight

Civilian Employments

Department of State, Washington,
D.C. (January 1, 1938 -
March 9, 1939 and September
28, 1940 - February 28, 1941);
Department of Interior,
Washington, D.C. (March,
1939 - September, 1940);
Editorial Publications Incorporated,
Publishers, New York
City, New York (March, 1941 -
February, 1943).

Civilian Occupations

Economist and Journalist

Sports

Skiing

Hobbies

Sailing

Special Accomplishment

Author: "make this the last war"
(H. Brace 1943)

Addresses

Box 268 B, Route 3, Alexandria,
Virginia (1942);
Applegreen Old Westburn, Long
Island, New York (1952);
Box 541, Route 6, Alexandria,
Virginia (1952).

Relatives

Wife

Belinda Booth (Crompton)
Straight,

Son

David Willard Straight, 721
South Gulf Stream Avenue,
Sarasota, Florida (March,
1944) and Applegreen Old
Westbury, Long Island, New
York (September, 1945);

Sister

Beatrice W. Straight Dolivet
Old Westbury, Long Island,
New York (1942);

Brother

Whitney Willard Straight

Mother

Dorothy Whitney Elmhirst
Dartington Hall Totnes.
England (November, 1943).

Foreign Languages

French - read, write, speak,
understand - excellent;
Russian and German - read,
write, speak, understand -
fair.

Michael Whitney Straight

Foreign Travel

England (1926-1927), residence and education;
Almost all of Europe (1927-1937), travel and conferences;
India and Far East (1931), travel;
Africa (1937-1937) travel and racing (auto);
Canada, USSR (1926-1938 and 1942), travel.

Organizations

Vice Chairman and Director, Fight for Freedom Incorporated, Handling 60 volunteer workers, collecting funds, etc. (1941).

Photograph

Available upon request, exact date taken unknown (probably February, 1944).

DIRECTOR, FBI

8/1/68

SAC, ST. LOUIS (65-2523)

RUC

UNSUB; aka
Dan
(SOVME)
ESP-R

RE MICHAEL WHITNEY STRAIGHT
MISC - IC
ESP - RUSSIA

Re Bulet dated 6/6/68 and 7/9/68.

Attached are ten copies of LHM for the Bureau, and two copies each to New York and Washington Field captioned "MICHAEL WHITNEY STRAIGHT" regarding information concerning STRAIGHT as obtained from a review of his military records.

- 4 - Bureau (Enc. 10) RM
 - (2 - 65-61967)
 - (2 - 100-61929)
- 2 - New York (Personal Attn: SAC) (Enc. 2) RM
 - (1 - 65-16090)
 - (1 - 100-17747)
- 2 - WFO (Personal Attn: SAC) (Enc. 2) RM
 - (1 - 65-6216)
 - (1 - 100-3644)
- 2 - St. Louis
 - (1 - 65-2523)
 - (1 - 100-21106)

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(10)

65-16090-48

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DIRECTOR, FBI (65-61067)

8/8/68

SAC, NEW YORK (65-16090) (P)

UNSUB; aka Dan
(SOVME)
ESP-R

ReS11et, 8/1/68, and Bulet, 7/29/68.

A review of the military record of MICHAEL STRAIGHT reflects that from 11/24/44 to 9/20/45, he was assigned to various Army Air Force bases in Nebraska, Ohio, South Dakota, and Texas. There is no indication that he was in Washington, DC, in early 1945. He was not relieved from active duty until 10/28/45, and as of 9/20/45, five days after [redacted] information dated 9/15/45, he completed his service at Randolph Field, Texas, prior to going on terminal leave and/or travel time duty status. Based on the most logical interpretation of [redacted] material, it does not appear that MICHAEL STRAIGHT is identical with the subject.

b3

ReBulet suggests LOUIS DOLIVET as a possible suspect for the subject. A review of NY files reflects that LOUIS DOLIVET served in the US Army from 10/8/43 to 11/23/43. There is no indication that he served in the US Army in 1944-45. In addition, his service in the Army was of such short duration that there would appear to be little reason for the MGB to comment about it. While he is known to have been in Washington, DC, on 1/11/45, he was residing in NY at that time. It appears that DOLIVET had gone to Washington, DC, for the purpose of contacting the State Department regarding a visa and also, possibly, to see the French Ambassador. There is also no indication in NYO files that DOLIVET had lived in Washington, DC, prior to 1945. While it is true that DOLIVET

2-Bureau (RM)
1-Washington Field (65-6216) (INFO) (RM)
1-New York

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NY 65-16090

contemplated attending the General Assembly of the UNO in London in January, 1946, there is nothing in NYO files reflecting that he actually made the trip. The information concerning the proposed trip was received on 12/26/45, and there is no indication that DOLIVET had contemplated making the trip as early as 9/15/45.

The foregoing indicates that on the basis of available information, LOUIS DOLIVET cannot be considered as a good suspect for the subject. However, it is interesting to note that he was suspected by the French of having acted as a British double agent in the US, and of having worked for [redacted] in NYC. DOLIVET is also known to have had contacts with important personages in the US and England. He was a particularly close friend of PHILIP NOEL BAKER who served as British Minister of State from 1945 to 1946, and as British Secretary of State for Air in 1946.

b7D

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, New York (65-16090)

DATE: August 20, 1968

FROM : Director, FBI (65-61067)

SUBJECT: UNSUB; aka Dan
(SOVME)
ESP - R

Reurlet 8/8/68.

The Bureau appreciates the analysis prepared by your office and set forth in referenced letter of the possibility that Louis Dolivet might be identical with the unknown subject. From this analysis, it appears unlikely that Dolivet could be identical with the unknown subject. In addition, the military record of Michael Straight tends to eliminate him as a possibility for the unknown subject, aka Dan.

In your letter dated 7/12/68, you also discussed that Whitney Straight, brother of Michael Straight, might have been involved in Soviet espionage. You should advise if the files of your office contain any further information on Whitney Straight which might be of interest to this case.

WFO should submit its analysis of the possibility of Dolivet being identical with the unknown subject along with the results of the investigation requested by the New York Office in its letter dated July 12, 1968.

2 - WFO (65-6216)



65-16090-50

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W. K. [signature]

115015

SAC, New York (65-16090)

August 20, 1968

Director, FBI (65-61067)

UNSUB; aka Dan
(SOVME)
ESP - R

Reurlet 8/8/68.

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WFO should submit its analysis of the possibility of Dolivet being identical with the unknown subject along with the results of the investigation requested by the New York Office in its letter dated July 12, 1968.

2 - WFO (65-6216)

65-16090-50

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115016

DIRECTOR, FBI (65-61067) (S) (U) ~~SECRET~~

8/20/68

SAC, WFO (65-6216) (RUC) (S) (U)

UNSUB; aka
DAN—
SOVME
ESP-R

(S) (U)

Re Bureau letters 6/6/68, and 7/29/68, New York letters 7/12/68, and 8/8/68, and Saint Louis letter 8/1/68.

This case was reopened on the basis of ☐ suggestion that MICHAEL WHITNEY STRAIGHT might be identical with unknown subject DAN, although no facts were given by the Agency to support this proposal. (S) (U)

b3

Review of all references to MICHAEL STRAIGHT in WFO failed to disclose any persuasive points of identification. The Saint Louis letter outlining the military service record of MICHAEL STRAIGHT appears to eliminate this suspect completely.

With regard to WHITNEY WILLARD STRAIGHT, it is felt the reasoning set forth in suggesting him as a suspect is too tenuous to justify any investigation. Nothing factual was found in WFO references reviewed to qualify WHITNEY STRAIGHT as a logical suspect for DAN, and it is not believed he should be so considered on the basis of projected conclusions based on presumed or possible premises. (S) (U)

In the same context, it is deemed sheer speculation that the intelligence furnished by DAN involved the atomic bomb, and it is almost inconceivable that MICHAEL STRAIGHT was the source if this were true. The participation of STRAIGHT in
2 - Bureau
② - New York (65-16090) (RM) (S) (U)
2 - WFO
(1 - 100-3644) (STRAIGHT)

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(6)

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DATE 05-07-2015 OADR

65-16090-57

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SERIALIZED	FILED
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FBI - NEW YORK	

115017

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

DIRECTOR, FBI (65-61067) (S) (U)

8/20/68

SAC, WFO (65-6216) (RUC) (S) (U) ~~SECRET~~

UNSUB; aka
DAN
SOVME
ESP-R

(S) (U)

Re Bureau letters 6/6/68, and 7/29/68, New York letters 7/12/68, and 8/8/68, and Saint Louis letter 8/1/68.

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- 2 - Bureau
② - New York (65-16090) (RM) (S) (U)
2 - WFO
(1 - 100-3644) (STRAIGHT)

MAT:hjf
(6)

CLASS. BY 8269

DATE OF REVIEW OADR

65-16090-57

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN
IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE
SHOWN OTHERWISE.

SAC, New York (65-16090)

7/29/68

Director, FBI (65-61067)

PERSONAL ATTENTION

UNSUB; aka Dan
(SOVNE)
ESP - R

Reurlet 7/12/68.

A review has been made of Bureau files in accordance with your suggestion for information pertaining to Michael Whitney Straight and his older brother Whitney Willard Straight and no information was noted which would be of assistance to this investigation.

Relet points out the possibility that Whitney Straight was at least of interest to the Soviets or could possibly have been involved in Soviet intelligence work. Relet points out that Whitney Straight served in the Royal Air Force during World War II and was shot down. In addition to having been shot down, it is also known that Whitney Straight escaped from a German prison camp and successfully returned to England during the War. Inasmuch as this escape may have been reported in the newspaper, you should check the records of "The New York Times" in order to determine if there is any information about the whereabouts of the Straight brothers during the time pertinent to this case.

For your further information, [redacted] has furnished additional information concerning the individuals known as Alan and Dan. This information is that the MGB Moscow told the MGB London that it recommended sending Alan to contact Dan. This differs from previous information furnished by [redacted] that Alan was to accompany Dan. This would indicate that Alan was probably already in England and was to be used to handle Dan. In addition, since a recognition signal, in the form of a magazine, was to be used by Dan, it would seem that Dan and Alan were not previously known to each other.

1 - WFO (65-6216) (PERSONAL ATTENTION)

65-16090-52

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115019

Letter to SAC, New York
RE: UNSUB; aka Dan
65-61067

Another individual who cannot be overlooked as a possible suspect for Dan is Louis Dolivet, former husband of Beatrice Straight, sister of Michael and Whitney Straight. Dolivet is a Romanian by birth and was connected with both the Communist Party and Soviet intelligence in Europe before he came to the United States in the late 1930s or early 1940s. He married Beatrice Straight 2/21/42 at Des Moines, Iowa, and through this marriage he became editor of the "Free World" which was later changed to the "United Nations World." This magazine was financed mainly by the Straight family. Dolivet served in the U. S. Army from 10/8 until 11/23/43 and, as was pointed out in relet, he was in Washington, D. C., on 1/11/45. These items compare favorably with the information known about Dan.

With regard to the fact that the MGB Moscow did not want to have the importance of the intelligence disclosed to Dan and that Dan had probably guessed about the importance of it, the Bureau agrees with your suggestion that this could possibly relate to the atomic bomb. If, however, Dolivet is considered as a suspect, this could possibly pertain to the sources which he had developed as an editor of a magazine dealing with the United Nations as well as the connections he had made through his marriage to a woman of high social position. As an example of this, it is noted in the report of Special Agent Thomas G. Spencer made at New York 9/26/50 in the case entitled "Louis Dolivet, IS-R and FR" on page 71, information is included about Dolivet's attempts to establish a United Nations journal and the fact that he was attempting to interest Nelson Rockefeller and John Hay Whitney (later U.S. Ambassador to England) in this venture.

Also in connection with the fact that Dan was going to England sometime after 9/15/45, you are referred again to the report of Special Agent Spencer which has on page 38 information that Dolivet was leaving the United States to travel to London as a special correspondent for the meeting of the General Assembly of the United Nations Organization. This meeting was scheduled to begin 1/10/46. This could possibly refer to the contact to be made in England mentioned by [redacted]

[redacted]
New York and WFO should review references in their files to Dolivet and submit comments concerning the possibility that he might be identical with unknown subject Dan.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, New York (65-16090)

DATE: 7/29/68

FROM : Director, FBI (65-61067)

PERSONAL ATTENTION

SUBJECT: UNSUB; aka Dan
(SOVME)
ESP - R

Reurlet 7/12/68.

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1 - WFO (65-6216) (PERSONAL ATTENTION)

65-16090-58

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Pollock



Letter to SAC, New York
RE: UNSUB; aka Dan
65-61067

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[redacted]
New York and WFO should review references in their files to Dolivet and submit comments concerning the possibility that he might be identical with unknown subject Dan.

NY 65-16090

Review of MICHAEL STRAIGHT's book, "Make This the Last War" (Wilson Library Bulletin; November, 1943). When 10 years of age, MICHAEL STRAIGHT was sent to Dartington Hall, Totnes, England, where he presumably joined his brother, WHITNEY STRAIGHT, "now a squadron leader in the RAF". While at Trinity College, Cambridge, MICHAEL STRAIGHT was the first American to become president of Cambridge Union. He took a "triple-first" in economics, and became a Parliamentary candidate on the Labor Party ticket. He set up the Washington Chapter of the "Fight for Freedom Committee" and served for awhile as Vice Chairman. "At present he is serving in the Army."

Article in "New York Sun", 2/15/44, "New York RAF Commodore WHITNEY WILLARD STRAIGHT is Doing Brilliant Job in British Air Service". A reporter spoke to STRAIGHT in his headquarters in the Middle East where STRAIGHT was building up RAF Air Express Service to Cairo. STRAIGHT mentioned he had gone to the Lincoln School (in the U.S.) with DAVID, NELSON, WINTHROP and LAWRENCE ROCKEFELLER. His six year old daughter, CAMILLA, was staying in New York with his sister Mrs. BEATRICE DOLIVET, and his wife was in London. He was described as a millionaire who put his money into flying. He formed the Straight Corporation with offices in London and built a chain of ultra-modern airports throughout Britain. He is "now" one of the chief props of Air Chief Marshal Sir FREDERICK BOWHILL's RAF Transport Command. This organization was developed in March, 1943, out of the war-born ferry command which brought bombers and flying boats across the Atlantic from Canada. STRAIGHT was one of the first men selected by BOWHILL when

NY 65-16090

he formed his new organization. STRAIGHT stated, "Before I knew it I was promoted from Wing Commander to Air Commodore and sent to the Middle East to develop the job". STRAIGHT was described as being a big man in British Empire air communications.

Article in "Herald Tribune", 4/15/46, entitled "Who's Who at the Forum". MICHAEL STRAIGHT was described as a pilot of a Flying Fortress in the Army Air Force during the war. Mention was made of the fact that he returned to the U.S. from England in 1937.

Subsequent articles reflect the following:

WHITNEY STRAIGHT described as Vice Chairman of the Board of the British European Airways Corps (8/9/46); MICHAEL STRAIGHT, Chairman of the Nassau Independent Voters Association (9/12/46); BRUCE BLIVEN and MICHAEL STRAIGHT designated as editors of "The New Republic" (11/13/46); WHITNEY STRAIGHT described as Deputy Chairman of British European Airways (1/14/47); HENRY WALLACE at home of MICHAEL STRAIGHT, publisher of "The New Republic" (2/28/47); WHITNEY STRAIGHT, Chief Executive of BOAC (11/15/48); WHITNEY STRAIGHT, Managing Director of BOAC (7/23/48); MICHAEL STRAIGHT, editor of "The New Republic" (11/29/49); LORD RENNELL replaces WHITNEY STRAIGHT at BOAC. STRAIGHT, who had been with BOAC since 1949, recently joined the Board of Rolls-Royce (11/1/55).

The files of the NYO contain no additional pertinent information concerning WHITNEY STRAIGHT. No additional investigation is contemplated.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

June 14, 1966

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR
SUBJECT: [REDACTED]

Michael Whitney Straight was interviewed June 6, 1966, by a representative of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and queried concerning his recollections of Americans who attended Cambridge University and were involved in communist activities or recruited by Soviet Intelligence.

Straight recalled he attended Cambridge University from 1934 to 1937, and was domiciled at Trinity College. Straight advised at that time he had become almost completely British and had no special relationships with any Americans. He explained further that in addition to the fact most of his associates were British the Americans at Cambridge were mostly graduate students and their brief tenure reduced the possibility of meeting them and developing lasting friendships.

The list of eighty-five Americans who are known to have attended Cambridge University between the years 1920-1924, were displayed to Straight. This listing includes twenty individuals who were domiciled at Trinity College and two who lived at Trinity Hall, however, it is noted the above period just preceded the time when Straight was an undergraduate at the university. Straight advised he could not identify anyone from the list of Americans described above as an acquaintance, or as known to him during his student days. He said after coming to the United States he thinks he may have met Catherine Morsey while both were employed at the Department of State. If so, it was a very casual acquaintance.

Straight recalled in 1936, or 1937, at Cambridge University he had known Lorie Tarsis, an American, who was a graduate student in economics. Straight recalled he was

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also studying economics and they were mutual admirers of the late economist Lord John Maynard Keynes. Straight stated he knew Tarshis as a communist sympathizer and believes Tarshis may have attended Trinity College and may have been a member of the Trinity communist study group, or cell, as it was known. Straight did not know where Tarshis came from and could furnish no biographical data concerning him. He concluded stating he thought perhaps Tarshis was a genuine, honest Marxist economist.

Straight also recalled another American who attended Cambridge University in 1935 or 1936, who was a member of the communist cell at one of the colleges. Straight could not remember which college and said it could have been Trinity College, Trinity Hall or possibly another. This young man was the son of an admiral, however, Straight could not recall the name at first. He finally said he believed the surname might be Howard. Straight stated this young man was a shy, mild mannered individual, of good appearance and pleasant disposition. Straight said he did not know him well and thought he may have met him at a fraction meeting or perhaps some party or other get together of the communist oriented students. Straight said he felt this young man had been "drawn in" while a student and was not a dedicated communist. Straight further described _____ "Howard" as a nice lad and said he was about five feet eight inches in height, with black hair.

Straight further advised that Bernard M. Knox was a British student at Cambridge University from about 1933 to 1936, who later became an American citizen and attended Yale University. Knox was a member of the student communist organization and was domiciled at St. Johns College. Straight said he is certain Knox lost interest in the communist cause about 1938 or 1939, and gave it no further thought. He recalled Knox had served in the war and after receiving brief officer's training was dropped behind the lines in France and was injured. He returned to the United States where he was discharged and reentered Yale University. Straight advised Knox is presently living in Washington, D.C., and is Director of the Center for Hellenic Studies.

HAROLD ADRIAN RUSSELL PHILBY

CONFIDENTIAL

Straight also recalled Henry Hyde as an American student at Cambridge University (1933-1936) whom he knew. He advised Hyde was not connected with the communist movement in any way and was not apparently interested in political matters. Straight said Hyde belonged to the Pitt Club which was an innocuous social "luncheon club." Straight said Hyde is now residing in New York City and is engaged in stock brokerage business.

Straight further recollected there was a Canadian by the name of Herbert Norman who attended Cambridge University when he was there and who for a year or two, about 1935-1936, was a member of one of the communist cells. This man was a graduate student and was preparing for a career in diplomacy at the time. He later served in the Canadian Foreign Ministry and achieved rank of Minister. Straight advised he did not know Norman well and knew nothing of his background. He stated Norman had committed suicide eight or ten years ago by jumping out of a window in Montreal, or perhaps Ottawa, Canada. Straight advised he had related the information just above to a member of the British Intelligence Service about four or five years ago during interview in Washington, D.C.

Straight advised off hand he could not recall any Americans who had attended Oxford University but said he would be happy to examine any lists of names from Oxford or any additional lists from Cambridge University for the purpose of possibly stimulating his memory.

Straight has stated previously that he knew Guy de Morny Burgess. As matter of interest he was asked concerning subject Harold Adrian Russell Philby and Donald Stuart McLean and advised he did not know either man. Straight also stated he did not know Donald Wiven Wheeler or John Calway Foster while he attended Cambridge University and could furnish no information concerning either.

Straight advised he could furnish no additional information concerning Soviet Intelligence and did not know of any intelligence recruitments among students at Cambridge

HAND TO ADRIAN RUSSELL THIBBY

CONFIDENTIAL

University. He again recalled his earlier suspicions that Professor Anthony Blunt may have recruited Leslie Humphreys and Lee Long and advised Blunt has admitted he recruited Long but denied that Humphreys was recruited. Straight mentioned in this connection that Blunt had never admitted to him that Guy Burgess was involved with Soviet Intelligence.

This document contains neither
recommendations nor conclusions of
the FBI. It is the property of
the FBI and is loaned to your agency;
it and its contents are not to be
distributed outside your agency.

CONFIDENTIAL

DIRECTOR, FBI (65-68043)

6/14/66

SAC, WFO (65-8951)(P)

HAROLD ADRIAN RUSSELL PHILBY
ESP-R

ReLulets 4/6/66, and 5/23/66.

Enclosed herewith are five copies for Bureau, one for New York, of LHM dated and captioned as above, reflecting interview of MICHAEL WHITNEY STRAIGHT on 6/6/66, by SA MAURICE A. TAYLOR.

STRAIGHT advised he is now living in Georgetown and his address is 3017 N Street, N.W., phone 338-6496. He plans to be in Washington, D.C., for a couple of weeks and then will go to Marthas Vineyard, Massachusetts, phone Mission 5-9795, Chilmark, Massachusetts. STRAIGHT, as previously, was very cordial and completely cooperative, in fact, he expressed willingness to undertake an assignment if he can be of any service to the Bureau in the security field. STRAIGHT will be in Marthas Vineyard from 6/20/66, until 9/30/66.

During interview STRAIGHT related about five years ago he had been interviewed by an officer of MI-5 who came over to this country for the interview and had furnished his recollections of Britons who were involved in communist activities during his days at Cambridge University.

STRAIGHT mentioned later he had gone to England and confronted Professor ANTHONY BLUNT with his allegations concerning BLUNT with the result that BLUNT had broken and admitted his involvement in Soviet intelligence. STRAIGHT recalled he had mentioned previously that he surmised from conversations that BLUNT may have recruited LESLIE HUMPHREYS

2-Bureau (Enc. 5)
1-New York (Enc. 1) (65-22329) (RM)
2-WFO
(1-100-3644) (STRAIGHT)

MAT:ssk
(5)

273

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUN 14 1966	
FBI - NEW YORK	
115032	

Staley

WFO 65-8951

and LEO LONG, British students, for underground work. STRAIGHT said he was wrong in his deductions concerning HUMPHREYS but ANTHONY BLUNT had confessed that he recruited LEO LONG, who was employed in British Intelligence, and had worked for the British government in Berlin, Germany, and STRAIGHT said he volunteered to appear against LONG also.

STRAIGHT mentioned he had returned 6/3/66, from a ten day visit in England and expected to again visit that country in the fall of 1966.

Dr. LORIE TARSHIS, a professor of economics at Stanford University is known to the Bureau. FNU "Howard?" is not identifiable from WFO indices from the incomplete description furnished by MICHAEL STRAIGHT.

The enclosed LHM has been classified "~~Confidential~~" since it contains further revelations of MICHAEL WHITNEY STRAIGHT about his past communist associations and identifications of his friends and others.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **WASHINGTON, D. C.**

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

FILE NO **65-4736**

REPORT MADE AT WASHINGTON, D. C.	DATE WHEN MADE JUL 13 46	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 2/28; 3/8, 19; 20, 21, 25; 4/2; 12; 5/3, 6, 31; 6/10, 19/46	REPORT MADE BY COURTLAND J. JONES CJJ:EN
TITLE NATIONAL COMMITTEE ON ATOMIC INFORMATION; FEDERATION OF AMERICAN SCIENTISTS; FEDERATION OF ATOMIC SCIENTISTS; NATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR CIVILIAN CONTROL OF ATOMIC ENERGY			CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:
DECLASSIFIED BY **9803 RDD/KSA**
ON **10/25/93 #337233; 339333;**
339335; 339337; 340196; 340198

~~STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL~~
~~Reason for Extension of Confidentiality:~~
Date of ~~Extension~~ Declassification: **OADR**

Communist infiltration of four pressure groups concerned with atomic energy observed in Washington, D. C. The FEDERATION OF ATOMIC SCIENTISTS was formed 11/1/45 by scientists from Los Alamos, New Mexico, New York City, Chicago, Ill., and Oak Ridge, Tenn. It established headquarters at 1621 K Street, N. W., Washington, D. C., and incorporated other scientific groups from Cambridge, Mass.; Philadelphia, Pa.; Rochester, N. Y.; Dayton, Ohio, Pasadena, Calif., and Cumberland, Md., thus forming a permanent national organization entitled the FEDERATION OF AMERICAN SCIENTISTS. The two Federations established the National Committee on Atomic Information, a non-scientific organization with the endorsement of 60 national groups; such as labor unions, churches and pressure groups. Its purpose, according to its own interpretation is "To provide a medium through which it can co-operate with the atom scientists and their colleagues for public understanding of scientific facts of atomic energy and their implication for society." The FEDERATION OF AMERICAN SCIENTISTS has issued an item of propaganda prepared to aid the defendants in the Canadian CORBY case. The NATIONAL COMMITTEE ON ATOMIC INFORMATION has raised a working fund of \$55,000 and has been promised advertising space by the National Advertisers' Group worth approximately \$1,000,000. The NATIONAL COMMITTEE ON ATOMIC ENERGY urges, through its publications, the civilian control of atomic energy. A fourth group, the NATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR CIVILIAN CONTROL OF ATOMIC ENERGY has established a separate office but it operates in conjunction with the aforementioned groups. Communist infiltration and influence set forth.

Subject of FOIPA Request
By **190-383**
Retain 5 Years **9-3-80**

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: 	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
Searched.....		<div style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">65-4736-24</div> <div style="font-weight: bold;">CONFIDENTIAL</div> <div style="font-weight: bold;">Date: 3/21/58</div> <div style="font-weight: bold;">Initials: </div>	
Serialized.....			
Indexed.....			
COPIES OF THIS REPORT		cc's of serials destroyed	
2 Bureau	2 Buffalo	<div style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold;">65-4736-24</div> <div style="font-weight: bold;">CONFIDENTIAL</div> <div style="font-weight: bold;">Date: 3/21/58</div> <div style="font-weight: bold;">Initials: </div>	
2 El Paso	2 Los Angeles		
2 New York	2 Knoxville		
2 Philadelphia	2 Cincinnati		
2 Baltimore	2 Boston		
2 Chicago	3 Washington Field		

Subject of FOIPA Request

By **National Lawyers Guild**

Retain 5 Years

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 16-57952-1

115104

NRK 6/11/77

NATIONAL COMMITTEE ON
ATOMIC INFORMATION

According to [] on November 16, 1945, a group of 60 organizations met for the first meeting of the National Committee on Atomic Information as a result of telegrams sent to various national organizations by a group headed by MICHAEL STRAIGHT of the publication "The New Republic". The Acting Chairman of this Committee meeting, which was held at Washington, D. C., was the Reverend FRANCIS McPEEK, prominent in local Washington, D. C. church circles. Reverend McPEEK named a Steering Committee to work out plans for setting up the National Committee on Atomic Information. U

b7D

The second Committee meeting was held in Washington, D. C., on December 18, 1945, and it formally set up the National Committee on Atomic Information and appointed DANIEL MELCHER as Director. At this meeting the officers and the Executive Committee were formally installed. The functions and the duties of the National Committee on Atomic Information, according to its own interpretation, is "a clearing house established by 60 national organizations to provide a medium through which they can cooperate with the atom scientists and their colleagues for public understanding of scientific facts of atomic energy and their implication for society."

The officers of the National Committee on Atomic Information are as follows:

Chairman

Ralph McDonald
National Education Association
1201 16th Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C.

Vice Chairman

Helen Dwight Reid
American Association of University Women
1624 Eye Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C.

Secretary

Mrs. Joy Falk
United Council of Church Women
1751 N Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DONOT INDEX

Treasurer

Rev. E. A. Conway, S. J.
Catholic Association for International Peace
1312 Massachusetts Avenue, N. W.
Washington, D. C.

Director

Daniel Melcher

(Helen Dwight Reed)

Executive Committee

Clark Eichelberger
American Association for the United Nations

Rev. Richard Fagley
Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America

Frieda F. Halpern
Independent Citizens' Committee of the Arts,
Sciences, and Professions

Gardner Jackson
National Farmers' Union

Robert K. Lamb
United Steelworkers of America, CIO

Mrs. Olya Margolin
National Council of Jewish Women

Mrs. Allen Mitchell
National League of Women Voters

John A. Simpson
Federation of Atomic Scientists

Michael Straight
Americans United for World Government

SCIENTIFIC CONSULTANTS' PANEL

Albert Einstein
J. R. Oppenheimer

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

individual in 1941. The report of Special Agent LEONARD BLAYLOCK, dated October 28, 1941, at Washington, D. C., entitled "GARDNER JACKSON; INTERNAL SECURITY-C; HATCH ACT" reflects that GARDNER JACKSON was connected with the following organizations:

- Washington Committee for Democratic Action
- National Federation for Constitutional Liberties
- American Peace Mobilization
- United American Spanish Relief Committee
- Washington Youth Congress
- Washington Book Shops

In addition, GARDNER JACKSON is known to have presented the case of MARGUERITE OSTROV NOVEMBER in 1941 to Mrs. ELEANOR ROOSEVELT in protest of a dismissal of Miss NOVEMBER from the War Department for her Communist activities.

JACKSON was born September 10, 1896, at Colorado Springs, Colorado, was educated at Amherst College, Columbia University and Harvard University. He is presently employed as a Director of the National Farmers' Union, Washington, D. C.

ROBERT K. LAMB, Member of the Executive Committee

The indices of the Washington Field Division reflect that ROBERT K. LAMB of the United Steelworkers of America, CIO, is known to Confidential Informant C-299, whose identity is known to the Bureau, to be personally acquainted with Communists. However, no definite information has been secured reflecting his membership in any subversive organizations. U

MICHAEL STRAIGHT, Member of the Executive Committee

The indices of the Washington Field Division reflect that MICHAEL STRAIGHT, son of Mr. and Mrs. WILLARD D. STRAIGHT, was formerly employed at the Department of State as a Division Assistant in the Division of European Affairs. His name appears on the active indices as of January, 1942, of the American Peace Mobilization and the North American Spanish Relief Committee. He is approximately 29 years of age. He was educated at Cambridge University. His mother, the present

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Dr. CONDON is known to be an associate of NATHAN GREGORY SILVERMASTER, principal subject in the case entitled "GREGORY; ESPIONAGE-R". The report of Special Agent LAMBERT G. ZANDER, dated March 11, 1946, at Washington, D. C., entitled "GREGORY; ESPIONAGE-R" reflects that on February 4, 1946, a surveillance on NATHAN GREGORY SILVERMASTER reflected that SILVERMASTER and his wife were observed to visit at the home of Dr. and Mrs. CONDON and the four of them were also observed to attend a dinner sponsored by the AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR RUSSIAN RELIEF.

By letter dated March 27, 1946, the Bureau advised that information had been received from a highly confidential source reflecting that Dr. CONDON was considered as "nothing more or less than an espionage agent in disguise."

✓ Another individual suspected by Informant [] as being a member of the Communist Party is MAX YERGAN. A review of the indices of the Washington Field Division reflects that this individual was the subject of an Internal Security-R investigation by the New York Field Division in 1944. The report of Special Agent HOWARD W. LITTLE, dated November 24, 1944, at New York City, entitled "DR. MAX YERGAN, with aliases; INTERNAL SECURITY-R, REFER 5-IS" reflects that YERGAN is an American negro and was born July 19, 1894, in Raleigh, North Carolina. He is the Executive Director of the Council on African Affairs, President of the National Negro Congress, Treasurer and Director of the "People's Voice", a pro-Communist Harlem newspaper. 4

b7D

Dr. YERGAN's activities include his being an organizer and trustee of the JEFFERSON SCHOOL FOR SOCIAL SCIENCE, a Communist school in New York City, and Chairman of the Board of the GEORGE WASHINGTON CARVER SCHOOL of Harlem, New York. YERGAN is also reported to be a secret member of the Communist Party and is believed to have been sent by the Party to India and Africa in 1940. He is a known guest writer for the DAILY WORKER and is also known to have visited LOUIS BRANSTEN, prominent Communist Party member in San Francisco and EARL BROWDER, former President of the Communist Party.

✓ LOUIS DOLIVET, heretofore mentioned, is also another individual active in the affairs of the National Committee on Atomic Information, according to []. The report of Special Agent JOHN N. DORAN, dated July 5, 1945, at New York City, entitled "LOUIS DOLIVET, with aliases; INTERNAL SECURITY-R; REGISTRATION ACT" reflects that he was born 4

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

in France of Roumanian origin and became a naturalized French citizen in 1937. He was alleged to be a member of the Swiss Communist Party but no substantiation has been obtained regarding this allegation. He entered the United States on January 9, 1941, and married the sister of MICHAEL STRAIGHT, heretofore mentioned. DOLIVET is International Director of the magazine entitled "Free World". U

✓ JAMES R. NEWMAN, Program Analyst of the Office of War Mobilization and Reconversion, is interested in the National Committee on Atomic Information, according to Informant [redacted] NEWMAN was born in New York City of Czechoslovakian parentage and is a graduate of Columbia University Law School. U

b7D

The Bureau has advised that it has received information from a highly confidential source reflecting that NEWMAN is noted for his pro-Soviet leanings. It is alleged that he has access to material flowing directly to the White House and is intimately acquainted with NATHAN GREGORY SILVERMASTER, subject of a case entitled "GREGORY; ESPIONAGE-R". NEWMAN is currently under investigation by the Washington Field Division.

✓ HERBERT MARKS is another individual suspected by [redacted] as having Communist tendencies and who is active in the affairs of the National Committee on Atomic Information. The informant has advised that MARKS is employed in the Office of Information, United States Department of State, and was placed in charge of the distribution of a report concerning atomic energy prepared by Assistant Secretary of State DEAN ACHISON. This report was definitely not favorable to the Communist line and the informant observed MARKS was reluctant to give the report wide distribution and did not do so until Congress forced him to circularize the report in paper-bound copies. U

The informant advised that members of the National Committee on Atomic Information are in daily contact with MARKS. U

The Bureau by letter dated March 27, 1946, has advised that a highly confidential source has stated that HERBERT MARKS is noted for his pro-Soviet leanings. MARKS is currently under investigation by the Washington Field Division.

- P E N D I N G -

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOI/PA
DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET
FOI/PA# 1179375-1

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Page 1 ~ Referral/Consult;

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOI/PA
DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET
FOI/PA# 1179375-1

Total Deleted Page(s) = 4
Page 18 ~ Referral/Consult;
Page 114 ~ Referral/Consult;
Page 115 ~ Referral/Consult;
Page 116 ~ Referral/Consult;

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F-108

8/27/69

PLAINTEXT

TELETYPE

URGENT

79 sent
lee

new 9/5/69
Per Diamond
548 P.M. DCW

TO SACS WASHINGTON FIELD - ENC. (4) (BSM)
ST. LOUIS
NEW YORK
BALTIMORE
ALEXANDRIA

FROM DIRECTOR FBI

22

MICHAEL WHITNEY STRAIGHT, SPECIAL INQUIRY, BUDED SEPTEMBER THREE, NEXT, WITHOUT FAIL.

WHITE HOUSE HAS REQUESTED EXPEDITE INVESTIGATION OF STRAIGHT WHO IS BEING CONSIDERED FOR PRESIDENTIAL APPOINTMENT, POSITION NOT STATED. BORN SEPTEMBER ONE, NINETEEN SIXTEEN, SOUTHAMPTON, NEW YORK, AND APPARENTLY PRESENTLY RESIDES IN VICINITY OF WASHINGTON, D.C. SEE WHOS WHO FOR FURTHER BACKGROUND DATA.

INFORMATION RECEIVED THAT STRAIGHT FORMERLY RESIDED GREEN SPRING ROAD, ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA, WHICH IS ACTUALLY LOCATED IN FAIRFAX COUNTY, VIRGINIA, NEAR PINECREST GOLF COURSE ON ROUTE TWO THIRTYSIX. HE IS PRESENTLY RENTING THAT HOME WHICH IS A LARGE ESTATE. THE CARETAKER OF THAT ESTATE AND AN EMPLOYEE OF STRAIGHT'S IS JOHN QUAST, FOUR FIVE TWO FIVE GREEN SPRING ROAD, ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA, WHICH RESIDENCE IS LOCATED ON EDGE OF ESTATE.

NOTE: Request received today from White House. Separate memo sent through re request.

- Tolson
- DeLoach
- Mohr
- Bishop
- Casper
- Callahan
- Conrad
- Felt
- Gale
- Rosen
- Sullivan
- Tavel
- Trotter
- Tele. Room
- Holmes
- Gandy

DHY:pnh
(5)

ENCLOSURE

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

RETURN TO MR. YOUNG ROOM 1258.

REC 70

ST-100

AUG 29 1969

115110

TELETYPE TO WASHINGTON FIELD
RE: MICHAEL WHITNEY STRAIGHT

INFORMATION FURTHER RECEIVED THAT WHEN STRAIGHT AND
WIFE, THE FORMER BELINDA CROMPTON, LEFT THE ESTATE THEY
PURCHASED THE HOUSE FORMERLY OWNED BY JACQUELINE KENNEDY,
GEORGETOWN, WASHINGTON, D.C. THEY HAVE REPORTEDLY JUST
SEPARATED AND MRS. STRAIGHT IS RESIDING IN HOUSE AND HIS
PRESENT RESIDENCE IS NOT KNOWN.

WFO AND ALEXANDRIA OBTAIN COMPLETE BACKGROUND DATA AND
SET OUT LEADS BY TELETYPE.

CONDUCT NO NEIGHBORHOOD INVESTIGATION UNLESS SOME REASON
FOR DOING SO EXISTS, AT WHICH TIME PRIOR BUREAU APPROVAL SHOULD
BE SECURED.

DUE TO URGENT NATURE OF REQUEST IT IS IMPERATIVE BUDED BE
MET WITHOUT FAIL. NO DELAY WILL BE TOLERATED.

SPIN.

THE WHITE HOUSE
Washington

MEMORANDUM

DATE August 25, 1969

TO : Mr. Cartha D. DeLoach, FBI
FROM : John D. Ehrlichman
SUBJECT : FBI Investigation

Subject's Name STRAIGHT, Michael Whitney

Date of Birth Sept. 1, 1916 Place of Birth Southampton, L. I., N. Y.

Present Address _____

Egil Krogh has requested:

- ☐ Copy of Previous Report
☐ Name Check
☒ Full Field Investigation

The person named above is being considered for:

- ☐ White House staff position
☒ Presidential appointment
☐ Position with another Agency

ATTACHMENTS:

- ☐ SF 86 (in duplicate)
☐ SF 87, Fingerprint Card
☒ Biography

REMARKS: Please note the name check report you sent August 19, 1969.

REPORT SHOULD BE DELIVERED BY FBI TO: JOHN D. EHRLICHMAN

ENCLOSURE
161-

6678- /

ARM

*Tel to:
SL, NY, BA, AX
WFO, 8-27-69
DJY/*

Michael Whitney Straight

born, Sept. 1, 1916, Southampton, Long Island, N. Y.

Education - London School of Economics - Cambridge University

1938 - 41 associated with State Dept. and Interior Dept., U.S. Gov.

1941 - 43 an editor, New Republic

1943 vice-chairman, Fight for Freedom

1946 - 47 secretary, Emergency Comm. of Atomic Scientists

President of William C. Whitney Foundation

Served as pilot, A.A.F., 1943 - 45

ENCLOSURE

161- 6678 -1

115113

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Records Branch

8/28, 1969

☒ Name Searching Unit - Room 6527
☐ Service Unit - Room 6524
☒ Forward to File Review
☐ Attention _____
☒ Return to Fisher 1260 2558
Supervisor Room Ext.

Type of References Requested:

☐ Regular Request (Analytical Search)
☒ All References (Subversive & Nonsubversive)
☐ Subversive References Only
☐ Nonsubversive References Only
☐ Main _____ References Only

Type of Search Requested:

☐ Restricted to Locality of _____
☐ Exact Name Only (On the Nose)
☐ Buildup AUG 28 1969 Variations

Subject Straight, Michael Whitney
Birthdate & Place _____
Address 9-1-14

Localities

R# 100 ⁹⁰ Date 8/28 Searcher Initials 231

Prod.

FILE NUMBER	SERIAL
40-61929	55 (6-29-54)
40-34760	
40-35600	
100-61929	41-1-1-1
40-35600	Sum. (8/10/42)
62-36203	58 Sum. (7/11/52)
62-65153	144-20.16 Sum. (12/8/51)
62-102319	16-20.2-2 Sum. (7/11/55)
100-61929	41 Sum. (1-9-47)
43 Sum. (1-4-50)	
46 Sum. (12-50)	
47 Sum. (10-1-51)	
49 Sum. (7-11-52)	
51 Sum. (7-7-55)	
100-401767	7-20.68 Sum. (3/11/57)
62-111181	746
65-61067	48
65-62911	153
65-68043	241
100-162924	78 p. 1

Section sp. not typed.

NUMEROUS REFERENCE

SEARCH SLIP

Subj: Straight, Michael Whitney

Supervisor _____ Room _____

R# (000) Date 8/28 Searcher Initial 731

Prod. _____

FILE NUMBER

SERIAL

~~100-162924-88p.1~~~~100-175440-30~~~~100-351668-147p.5; 170; 197~~

ap. 4

~~100-357510-864~~~~100-414112-2 ap. 2, 3, 8, 9, 13, 14,~~

15, 16, 17

~~121-22150-12p.14~~~~151-1728-5~~ ^{USIA}~~100-412839-4~~~~138-10-239~~ ^{Mr. John Dumas}

Michael W.

~~40-35903-1 Sum. (8/4/42)~~

Michael

~~100-61929-52 Sum. (6/10/63)~~~~40-38253-870~~~~61-3415-658 ap. 19~~~~62-77787-250-178~~~~62-101087-49 Sum. "Wash. Post" (6/6/58)~~~~62-111181-776~~~~64-200-221-1994~~~~64-200-241-735~~~~64-48051-3 ap. 53~~

3.

NUMEROUS REFERENCE

SEARCH SLIP

Subj: Straight, Michael Whitney

Supervisor _____

Room _____

R# (60)Date 5/25Searcher
Initial 731

Prod. _____

FILE NUMBER

SERIAL

Michael

~~65-57905-873 p. 21~~

~~65-59814-164 p. 6~~

~~65-61067-20; 29; 48; 49; 51~~

~~65-61407-25~~

~~65-68043-208; 211~~

~~77-64086-35~~

~~94-3-4-690-96 letter 6, 7, 8, 9~~

~~100-3-73-450 ep. 30~~

~~100-23795-264 p. 3~~

~~100-24628-6379~~

~~100-64700-1209 ep. 2831; 1212~~

~~ep. 3784; 1215 ep.~~

~~4975, 4977, 5261,~~

~~5299~~

~~100-99055-15~~

~~100-175440-27; 30~~

~~100-334802-6 ep. 3~~

~~100-348196-122 ep. 16, 153~~

~~105-34085-11 Control~~

~~100-351668-93; 99 ep. 9; 105~~

~~147 p. 5; 170; 197~~

~~ep. 4~~

~~100-355778-110~~

NUMEROUS REFERENCE

SEARCH SLIP

Subj: Straight, Michael Whitney

Supervisor _____

Room _____

R# 100Date 8/28

Searcher

Initial 731

Prod. _____

FILE NUMBER

SERIAL

FILE NUMBER	SERIAL
<u>Michael</u>	
<u>100-355779-110</u>	
<u>100-357510-864</u>	
<u>100-372794-3 ep. 20</u>	
<u>100-392047-111 ep. 7</u>	
<u>100-399138-5 ep. 30</u>	
<u>100-409068-18 ep. 41</u>	
<u>100-410178-7</u>	
<u>100-411059-3</u>	
<u>100-412839-4</u>	
<u>100-414112-2 ep. 15, 16, 17</u>	
<u>100-425386-1 ep. 15</u>	
<u>100-427376-4 ep. 103</u>	
<u>101-3616-244</u>	
<u>105-15432-11 ep. 4</u>	
<u>105-18850-6</u>	
<u>105-18850 Sub A "Wash News"</u>	
	<u>(12/27/55)</u>
<u>105-34085-15 ep. 10, 11</u>	
<u>103-15055-28 ep. 20</u>	
<u>108-10-164</u>	
<u>Bureau Library "A Very Small Remnant"</u>	

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Records Branch

19

<input type="checkbox"/>	Name Searching Unit - Room 6527
<input type="checkbox"/>	Service Unit - Room 6524
<input type="checkbox"/>	Forward to File Review
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Attention <i>Yanuzzi</i>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Return to <i>Fischer</i> 1260
	Supervisor Room Ext.

Type of References Requested:

☐ Regular Request (Analytical Search)
☒ All References (Subversive & Nonsubversive)
☐ Subversive References Only
☐ Nonsubversive References Only
☐ Main _____ References Only

Type of Search Requested:

☐ Restricted to Locality of _____
☒ Exact Name Only (On the Nose)
☐ Buildup ☐ Variations

Subject⁹

Birthdate & Place

Address

Localities

R #.

Date _____

Searcher

Initials

Prod.

FILE NUMBER

SERIAL

151-1728-5

Susan Rommel's Car

405-132315-74060

Susan R.

100-439048-1-23p3,9,11

Susan

62-111181-776

He

62-111181-115/ep 12,

Romney, Susan

112

Remitted

NR

BM

SENT BY CODED TELETYPE

Bureau

NEW YORK --15-- BALTIMORE --4-- 600PM RNK

BA USE ONLY

URGENT 8-27-69 WLM

TO WASHINGTON FIELD, ST. LOUIS, NEW YORK, BALTIMORE

ALEXANDRIA ---PLAINTEXT---

FROM DIRECTOR 2P

AGENCY	RES.	DATE	INT.
DCU	✓	8/28	Jds
AIRR	ND	9/2	Jds
NIS			
OSI			

STATUS: Active

MICHAEL WHITNEY STRAIGHT, SPECIAL INQUIRY, BUDED SEPTEMBER THREE,
NEXT, WITHOUT FAIL.

WHITE HOUSE HAS REQUESTED EXPEDITE INVESTIGATION OF STRAIGHT WHO IS BEING CONSIDERED FOR PRESIDENTIAL APPOINTMENT, POSITION NOT STATED. BORN SEPTEMBER ONE, NINETEEN SIXTEEN, SOUTHAMPTON, NEW YORK, AND APPARENTLY PRESENTLY RESIDES IN VICINITY OF WASHINGTON, D.C. SEE WHOS WHO FOR FURTHER BACKGROUND DATA.

INFORMATION RECEIVED THAT STRAIGHT FORMERLY RESIDED GREEN SPRING ROAD, ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA, WHICH IS ACTUALLY LOCATED IN FAIRFAX COUNTY, VIRGINIA, NEAR PINECREST GOLF COURSE ON ROUTE TWO THIRTYSIX. HE IS PRESENTLY RENTING THAT HOME WHICH IS A LARGE ESTATE. THE CARETAKER OF THAT ESTATE AND AN EMPLOYEE OF STRAIGHT'S IS JOHN QUAST, FOUR FIVE TWO FIVE GREEN SPRING ROAD, ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA, WHICH RESIDENCE IS LOCATED ON EDGE OF ESTATE.
END PAGE ONE

BA FILE TO BE
DESTROYED IN 60 DAYS

61-11

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
FBI - BALTIMORE	

9/14/69

115119

PAGE TWO

INFORMATION FURTHER RECEIVED THAT WHEN STRAIGHT AND WIFE, THE FORMER BELINDA CROMPTON, LEFT THE ESTATE THEY PURCHASED THE HOUSE FORMERLY OWNED BY JACQUELINE KENNEDY, GEORGETOWN, WASHINGTON, D.C. THEY HAVE REPORTEDLY JUST SEPARATED AND MRS. STRAIGHT IS RESIDING IN HOUSE AND HIS PRESENT RESIDENCE IS NOT KNOWN.

WFO AND ALEXANDRIA OBTAIN COMPLETE BACKGROUND DATA AND SET OUT LEADS BY TELETYPE.

CONDUCT NO NEIGHBORHOOD INVESTIGATION UNLESS SOME REASON FOR DOING SO EXISTS, AT WHICH TIME PRIOR BUREAU APPROVAL SHOULD BE SECURED.

DUE TO URGENT NATURE OF REQUEST IT IS IMPERATIVE BUDED BE MET WITHOUT FAIL. NO DELAY WILL BE TOLERATED.

SPIN.

END

NY ACK.....KDHWPX FBI NEW YORK

QX

2/-BA ACK.....TED FBI BALTIMORE

Original in file 65-3415-658 ep 19

Copy to be placed in 161-6678

11561211

INITIATING GROUP

JOHN C. BENNETT
Dean, Union Theological Seminary Faculty New York CityROY FINCH
Faculty, Sarah Lawrence College Bronxville, N. Y.RONALD HARRINGTON
Minister, Community Church New York CityCHARLES P. LAWRENCE
Faculty, Brooklyn College Brooklyn, N. Y.LEWIS MUMFORD
Author Amenia, N. Y.A. J. MUSTE
Secretary, Fellowship of Reconciliation New York CityPAUL E. SCHERER
Professor of Homiletics, Union Theological Seminary New York CityNORMAN THOMAS
New York CityROWLAND WATTS
Secretary, Workers Defense League New York City

ADDITIONAL SIGNERS

ROLAND H. BAINTON
Yale Divinity School New Haven, Conn.GUSTAVE J. BISCHOF
Professor, Department of M.E., City College of New York New York CitySTEPHEN G. CARY
Secretary, American Section, American Friends Service Committee Philadelphia, Pa.HENRY STEELE COMMAGER
Columbia University New York CityALBERT SPRAGUE COLDIDGE
Lecturer on Chemistry, Harvard University Cambridge, Mass.HENRY H. CRANE
Minister, Central Methodist Church Detroit, Mich.W. J. FAULKNER
Pastor, Congregational Church of Park Manor Chicago, Ill.RICHARD B. GREGG
Author Jamaica, Vt.GEORGIA HARKNESS
Professor, Applied Theology, Pacific School of Religion Berkeley, Calif.ALFRED HASSLER
Editor, Fellowship New York CityREV. JOHN M. KRUMM
Chaplain, Columbia University New York CityKENT LARRABEE
Secretary, New York Region, Fellowship of Reconciliation New York CityPAUL LEHMANN
Professor, Applied Christianity, Princeton Theological Seminary Princeton, N. J.SID LENS
Manager, AFL Union in Chicago Chicago, Ill.HENRY LDFQUIST
Secretary, South Presbyterian Peace Fellowship Bessemer, Ala.PAUL G. MACY
Secretary (regional), Fellowship of Reconciliation ChicagoALLEN O. MILLER
Professor of Theology, Eden Seminary Webster Groves, Mo.PAUL S. MINEAR
Faculty, Andover-Newton Theological School Newton Centre, Mass.JEROME NATHANSON
Leader, Society for Ethical Culture New York CityHAZEL L. PERKISON
Director of Community Service, Broadway Congregational Church New York CityJOHN HENRY RANDALL, JR.
F.J.E. Woodbridge Professor of Philosophy, Columbia University New York CityELMER RICE
Playwright and producer New York CityMRS. ELEANOR RODSEVELT
Hyde Park, N. Y.CONSTANCE H. RUMBDUGH
Teacher, Weekday Religious Education Program Harrisonburg, Va.CULBERT G. RUTENBER
Professor, Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary Philadelphia, Pa.JOHN NEVIN SAYRE
Co-Treasurer, International Fellowship of Reconciliation New York CityMARK R. SHAW
Northeastern Secretary, Democracy Unlimited Melrose, Mass.EMILY PARKER SIMON
Executive Director, Baltimore Peace Section Baltimore, Md.To the President of the United States
On Amnesty for Smith Act Victims
and Postponement of Trials

MICHAEL WHITNEY STRAIGHT

Dear Mr. President:

We respectfully urge you to grant an amnesty commuting the sentences of the sixteen men and women now in prison under the Smith Act (Alien Registration Act of 1940) to time already served, and to use your influence to secure the postponement of trials in the 180 cases presently awaiting Trial Court or Appeals Court decisions under the Act.

Those who present this petition are in fundamental disagreement with the philosophy of the Communist Party and with essential elements in its program and are motivated in their present action by their attachment to the democratic way of life and the desire to maintain and strengthen it.

We call attention to Supreme Court Justice Black's description of the character of the Smith Act and the trial of Communist Party leaders under it in his dissenting opinion when appeal from the convictions under it was before the Supreme Court:

"At the outset I want to emphasize what the crime involved in this case is and what it is not. These petitioners are not charged with an attempt to overthrow the government. They were not charged with non-verbal acts of any kind designed to overthrow the government. They were not even charged with saying or writing anything designed to overthrow the government.

"The charge was that they agreed to assemble and talk and publish certain ideas at a later date...

"... The indictment is that they conspired to organize the Communist Party and to use speech or newspapers and other publications in the future to teach and advocate the forcible overthrow of the government."

Recently the Supreme Court itself, by agreeing to review the California Smith Act prosecutions, has recognized the appropriateness of a "second look" at the act.

Among the sixteen for whom we are requesting a Christmas amnesty are elderly and ill persons. The indictments and convictions in these cases were carried through in a period of the "cold war" and in an atmosphere often marked by hysteria. Fortunately, in recent months conditions have changed for the better and there is a noticeable trend to reaffirm the basic democratic traditions of our country.

It is our conviction that your acquiescence in our request would serve to give further impetus to this healthy trend, would give proof of our confidence in democratic institutions, would encourage and inspire our friends throughout the world and win new friends. Thus, we believe, it would also contribute toward peace in the world about which you are so deeply concerned and would be in line with the policy you set forth through Secretary of State Dulles on Nov. 18, 1955:

"I know that no setback, no obstacle to progress will ever deter this Government and our people from the great effort to establish a just and durable peace."

NOT RECORDED

OCT 28 1969

(names of other signers appear in column at left)

Signers are acting as individuals. Information about their associations is for purpose of identification.

ARTHUR L. SWIFT
Professor, Union Theological Seminary New York CityJOHN M. SWOMLEY, JR.
Secretary, Fellowship of Reconciliation New York CityLDREN WALTERS
Staff, Evangelical and Reformed Church Headquarters Philadelphia, Pa.ROBERT F. WEISKOTTEN
Minister, St. John's Lutheran Church Richmond Hill, N. Y.NORMAN J. WHITNEY
Syracuse University Syracuse, N. Y.HERMAN WILL, JR.
Vice-Chairman, Fellowship of Reconciliation Lombard, Ill.CHARLES W. FORDMAN
Faculty, Yale University New Haven, Conn.WALTER MITCHELL
Bishop of Arizona (Retired) Protestant Episcopal Church Rancho Santa Fe, Calif.ROBERT H. HAMILL
Minister, Ottawa St. Methodist Church Joliet, Ill.

LATE SIGNERS

ALAN BARTH
Author Washington, D. C.GRANVILLE HICKS
Writer Grafton, N. Y.B. F. McLAURIN
Brotherhood of Pullman Porters New York CityWALTER M. MUELDER
Dean, Boston Univ. School of Theology Boston, Mass.JOHN OLIVER NELSON
Faculty of Divinity School, Yale Univ. New Haven, Conn.ANNALIE STEWART
Women's Intl. League for Peace and Freedom Washington, D. C.MICHAEL STRAIGHT
Publisher, The New Republic New York City

115122

Distinguished Supreme Court Justices viewed the Smith Act with apprehension:

"The doctrine of conspiracy has served divers and oppressive purposes, and its broad reach can be made to do great evil. But never until today has anyone seriously thought that the ancient law of conspiracy could constitutionally be used to turn speech into seditious conduct. . . . Not a single seditious act is charged in the indictment. To make a speech unlawful because two men conceived it, is to raise the law of conspiracy to appalling proportions."

— U. S. SUPREME COURT JUSTICE WILLIAM O. DOUGLAS,
in his dissent in the same case.

"Public opinion being what it is, few will protest the conviction of the Communist petitioners. *There is hope, however, that in calmer times, when present pressures, passions and fears subside, this or some later court will restore the First Amendment liberties to the high preferred place where they belong in a free society.*"

— U. S. SUPREME COURT JUSTICE HUGO BLACK,
*in a dissenting opinion
in a Smith Act case in 1951.*

DO YOU WANT
TO JOIN THESE CITIZENS
IN A STAND FOR
CIVIL LIBERTIES?

The following petition (see inside) was sent to President Eisenhower on December 20, 1955 on behalf of the signers listed above. A large number of requests for copies of the petition and list of signers for wider distribution has been received, and also inquiries as to how people who were not among the small number to whom the original petition went may associate themselves with it.

If you take substantially the same Communist position, as set forth in the petition, and desire to associate yourself with it, we shall be glad to list your signature and at an appropriate time, when a considerable number of signatures have been assembled, transmit them to the President and the press.

A. J. MUSTE
21 Audubon Avenue
New York 32, N. Y.

I agree in principle with the Smith Act Petition and wish to associate myself with the original signers:

NAME _____
TITLE, if any _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____
SCHOOL, CHURCH or other organizational connection _____

If you wish to send in a small contribution to help cover cost of printing and mailing it will be welcome.

see inside →

115123

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

Tolson _____
DeLoach ☒ _____
Mohr _____
Bishop _____
Casper _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
Felt _____
Gale _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

TO : Mr. Gale *for*

FROM : W. V. Cleveland *WV*

SUBJECT: MICHAEL WHITNEY STRAIGHT
SPECIAL INQUIRY - WHITE HOUSE

DATE: 8/27/69

The White House has today requested an investigation of captioned individual who is being considered for a Presidential appointment, position not stated.

Straight, aged 52, is the wealthy socialite who is related to the Whitney family through his mother. He is the former editor of the "New Republic."

On 8/19/69 the White House was furnished the results of a name check conducted by the Crime Records Division, a tickler of which is attached. Straight has been involved with communist front organizations in the past and has admitted same to us during interviews in 1963.

ACTION: The case has been ordered separately to the field for immediate attention and the field has been instructed to conduct no neighborhood investigation concerning Straight without Bureau approval. You will be advised of any unusual developments.

Enc.

- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan
- 1 - Mr. Bishop
- 1 - Mr. Gale
- 1 - Mr. Cleveland
- 1 - Mr. Young

DHY:pnh *pnh*
(7)

1 page info
161-6678-3
DN
NOT RECORDED
4 OCT 23 1969

Spec. Inv.

115124

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE ST. LOUIS	OFFICE OF ORIGIN BUREAU	DATE 9/2/69	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 8/27 - 29/69
TITLE OF CASE MICHAEL WHITNEY STRAIGHT		REPORT MADE BY SA HARRY C. JUNG	TYPED BY ms
		CHARACTER OF CASE SPI	

REFERENCE: Bureau teletype, 8/27/69.

STATUS: RUC

A*

COVER PAGE

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED						<input type="checkbox"/> NONE	ACQUIT- TALS	CASE HAS BEEN:
CONVIC.	AUTO.	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS	RECOVERIES			
								PENDING OVER ONE YEAR <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
								PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO

APPROVED *[Signature]* SPECIAL AGENT
COPIES MADE: IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW

① - Bureau (AM)

1 - St. Louis (161-3149)

161-6678-5
NOT RECORDED

3 SEP 4 1969

Dissemination Record of Attached Report

Agency				
Request Recd.				
Date Fwd.				
How Fwd.				
By				

Notations

[Signature]

54 OCT 29 1969

COVER PAGE

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**

SL: 161-3149

on September 21, 1945, in the U.S. Army Officer's Reserve Corps at Randolph Field, Texas, and served in an inactive status until April 1, 1953, at which time his appointment was terminated by reason of declination of an indefinite term.

He had no foreign service and received no awards.

His character and efficiency ratings ranged from Satisfactory to Superior. There was no record of court-martial or absence without official leave.

The date and place of birth were shown as September 1, 1916, at Southhampton, New York.

A review on September 2, 1969, of the personnel records, National Personnel Records Center (Civilian Personnel Records) St. Louis, Missouri, indicated that MICHAEL W. STRAIGHT was employed on May 1, 1939, as a Special Assistant with the Federal Works Agency, Public Works Administration, National Power Policy Committee, at Washington, D.C. This employment was terminated on March 15, 1940, by reason of transfer to the Department of the Interior.

He was employed on March 16, 1940, as a Special Assistant with the Department of the Interior, National Power Policy Committee, at Washington, D.C. This employment was terminated on August 27, 1940, by reason of resignation to accept employment with the Department of State.

He was employed on August 27, 1940, as a Divisional Assistant with the Department of State, Washington, D.C. This employment was terminated on May 21, 1941, by reason of resignation - reason not shown.

No record of previous employment with the Department of State could be located, however, the record contained notation that he was employed from January 1, 1938, to May 20, 1939, as a Special Assistant with the Department

SL: 161-3149

of State, Office of Adviser on International Economics,
at Washington, D.C., on a basis of one dollar per year.

The date and place of birth were shown as
September 1, 1916, at Southhampton, New York.

3*

115129

0216-008-000-1 01070# 2416

VIA TELETYPE
SEP 3 1969
ENCIPHERED

Mr. Tolson_____
Mr. DeLoach_____
Mr. Mohr_____
Mr. Bishop_____
Mr. Casper_____
Mr. Callahan_____
Mr. Conrad_____
Mr. Felt_____
Mr. Gale_____
Mr. Rosen_____
Mr. Sullivan_____
Mr. Tavel_____
Mr. Trotter_____
Tele. Room_____
Miss Holmes_____
Miss Gandy_____

WA...17

FBI NEW YORK

8-58 PM URGENT 9-3-69 WPK

TO DIRECTOR (PLAINTEXT)

FROM NEW YORK 161-3206 2P

MICHAEL WHITNEY STRAIGHT; SPI.

REBUTEL, AUGUST TWENTY SEVENTH, SIXTY NINE.

INQUIRY NEW REPUBLIC, TWENTY WEST FORTY THIRD STREET, NYC, THIS DATE BY SPECIAL AGENT ERNEST W. MINTON, DISCLOSED ONLY TWO INDIVIDUALS ASSIGNED THIS LOCATION. MR. FRANCIS MC ADAMS, ADVERTISING DIRECTOR, STATED MAIN OFFICE NEW REPUBLIC LOCATED TWELVE FORTY FOUR NINETEENTH STREET, NORTH WEST WASHINGTON, DC. WFO ADVISED. ALSO INDICATED ONLY KNOWS STRAIGHT BY NAME AS FORMER OWNER NEW REPUBLIC ABOUT FIFTEEN YEARS AGO. MC ADAM'S SECRETARY WHO ALSO WORKS THIS LOCATION DOES NOT KNOW APPOINTEE.

INVESTIGATION WILLIAM C. WHITNEY FOUNDATION, TWENTY BROAD STREET, NYC, CONDUCTED THIS DATE BY SPECIAL AGENT MINTON.

MILTON C. ROSE, SENIOR PARTNER, MUDGE, ROSE, GUNTHEE, AND ALEXANDER, ABOVE ADDRESS STATED APPOINTEE CLIENT HIS FIRM AND ABOVE FOUNDATION IS CHARITABLE ORGANIZATION HANDLED BY

END PAGE ONE

1 cc destroyed

BPM/ma/340

34 OCT 23 1969

115130

PAGE TWO

HIS FIRM, STATED APPOINTEE'S MOTHER, DOROTHY STRAIGHT ELMHURST, AND APPOINTEE'S FATHER WILLARD STRAIGHT FORMULATED FOUNDATION YEARS AGO IN MEMORY MRS. ELMHURST'S LATE FATHER, WILLIAM C. WHITNEY. APPOINTEE SERVES AS PRESIDENT OF FOUNDATION AND HAS BEEN THAT CAPACITY SINCE ITS INCEPTION IN NINETEEN THIRTY SEVEN. ROSE STATED APPOINTEE'S FATHER DIED PNEUMONIA IN WORLD WAR ONE AND MOTHER DOROTHY STRAIGHT ELMHURST DIED DECEMBER THIRTEEN, SIXTY EIGHT, IN ENGLAND WHERE SHE HAS RESIDED SINCE NINETEEN TWENTY SIX, AFTER MARRIAGE TO LEONARD KNIGHT ELMHURST WHO CONTINUES TO RESIDE ENGLAND. APPOINTEE HAS BROTHER, WHITNEY WILLARD STRAIGHT, VICE PRESIDENT ROLLS ROYCE, INC., LONDON, ENGLAND, AND RESIDES ENGLAND. HAS SISTER BEATRICE STRAIGHT COOKSON WHO IS MARRIED TO PETER COOKSON, BOTH ACTRESS AND ACTOR RESPECTIVELY, AND RESIDE ONE FIFTY SIX EAST SIXTY SECOND STREET, NYC. WIFE, DOCTOR BELINDA CROMPTON STRAIGHT, CHILD PSYCHIATRIST, WDC. ROSE STATES APPOINTEE AND WIFE SEPARATED AND IN PROCESS OF GETTING DIVORCE, RENO, NEVADA, DUE TO INCOMPATIBILITY.

TELETYPES FOLLOW. P.

END

WA.....REM FBI WASH DC

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE ALEXANDRIA	OFFICE OF ORIGIN BUREAU	DATE 9/3/69	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 8/27 - 9/3/69
TITLE OF CASE MICHAEL WHITNEY STRAIGHT		REPORT MADE BY SA HARVEY E. WILKINSON	TYPED BY dks
		CHARACTER OF CASE SPECIAL INQUIRY	

REFERENCES: Bureau teletype, 8/27/69.

- P -

LEADS:

Alexandria will report the results of discreet efforts to obtain current background data on appointee and his family. Alexandria will also report results of [] of appointee's known relatives as furnished to Alexandria by the Bureau.

- A* -

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED						<input type="checkbox"/> NONE	ACQUIT-TALS	CASE HAS BEEN: PENDING OVER ONE YEAR <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
CONVIC.	AUTO.	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS	RECOVERIES			

APPROVED

SPECIAL AGENT
IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW

COPIES MADE:

① - Bureau

1 - Alexandria (161-176)

161-6678-7

REC-23

RECORDED

3 SEP 8 1969

Dissemination Record of Attached Report

Notations

Agency				
Request Recd.				
Date Fwd.				
How Fwd.				
By				

Spec [signature]

54 OCT 29 1969

COVER PAGE

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**

Copy to:

Report of: HARVEY E. WILKINSON
Date: September 3, 1969
Field Office File #: 161-176
Title: MICHAEL WHITNEY STRAIGHT

Office: Alexandria, Va.**Bureau File #:****Character:** SPECIAL INQUIRY

Synopsis: Results of Northern Virginia Police Department check on appointee and family set out.

- P -

DETAILS:

Investigative Clerk JOHN B. ARMSTRONG caused a search to be made of the files of the Alexandria, Virginia, Police Department and was advised on August 29, 1969, that no record was located concerning the appointee, the appointee's spouse, BELINDA CROMPTON STRAIGHT, or the appointee's children, DAVID, MICHAEL, SUSAN, DIANA, or DOROTHY.

MRS MICHAEL WHITNEY STRAIGHT

On August 29, 1969, IC ARMSTRONG determined the files of the Fairfax County Police Department reflect that one BELINDA CROMPTON STRAIGHT, born August 15, 1920, place not shown, residence 6300 Greenspring Road, Alexandria, Virginia, was issued a traffic citation on March 27, 1964, for failure to obey a highway sign for which she elected to forfeit \$22.75, and was issued another traffic citation on April 25, 1964 for speeding, electing to forfeit \$17.75.

One SUSAN ROMILY STRAIGHT, born July 2, 1948, place not shown, residing at 6300 Greenspring Road, Alexandria, Virginia, was issued a traffic citation on December 22, 1965, for failure to obey a traffic officer for which she elected to forfeit \$22.75.

AX 161-176

The above files contained no other records on the appointee or any other members of his immediate family.

FBI WASH DC

FBI BOSTON

10:34PM DEFERRED 9-3-69 RDS

TO DIRECTOR & NEW YORK

FROM BOSTON (161-NEW) 2P

MICHAEL WHITNEY STRAIGHT, SPI.

Mr. Tolson
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Bishop
Mr. Casper
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. Felt
Mr. Gale
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Sullivan
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Tele. Room
Miss Holmes
Miss Gandy

MR. TOLSON
ROOM 1248

REBUPHONE CALL TO BOSTON AND BOSTON PHONE CALL TO NEW YORK

INSTANT DATE.

[REDACTED]
MARTHA'S VINEYARD ISLAND (PROTECT IDENTITY) ADVISED HE HAS KNOWN
STRAIGHT FOR PERIOD OF APPROX. TEN YEARS. [REDACTED] ADVISED
ALL CONTACTS WITH STRAIGHT FAVORABLE AND CONSIDERS STRAIGHT TO BE
DEPENDABLE AND LOYAL. SUMMER RESIDENT OF MARTHA'S VINEYARD.

[REDACTED] ADVISED HE BELIEVES STRAIGHT'S WIFE TO BE THE
DAUGHTER OF THE LATE SENATOR TOBY FROM NEW HAMPSHIRE. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] ADVISED NO INFO HAD COME TO HIS ATTENTION THAT WOULD BAR
HIM, IN HIS OPINION, CONCERNING HIS LOYALTY.

TOWN SELECTMAN ALBERT O. FISCHER, CHAIRMAN, BOARD OF SELECTMAN,
CHILMARK, MARTHA'S VINEYARD ISLAND, ADVISED HE HAS KNOWN STRAIGHT FOR
A PERIOD OF APPROX. TEN YEARS AS A SUMMER RESIDENT OF MARTHA'S
VINEYARD. FISCHER STATED HE CONSIDERED STRAIGHT TO BE A PERSONABLE
AND CIVIC MINDED INDIVIDUAL AND A CREDIT TO THE COMMUNITY OF CHILMARK.

SELECTMAN FISCHER ADVISED STRAIGHT ACTIVE IN ISLAND CONSERVATION
WORK AND TOWN COMMITTEE AFFAIRS DURING HIS PERIOD OF SUMMER RESIDENCE.

END PAGE ONE

115135

PAGE TWO

FISCHER ADVISED THAT IN THE PAST STRAIGHT HAS BEEN INSTRUMENTAL IN BRINGING HIGH GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS TO MARTHA'S VINEYARD AND, ON ONE OCCASION, BROUGHT THE PAST SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR, STEWART LEE UDALL. FISCHER ADVISED HE WOULD RECOMMEND STRAIGHT FOR A POSITION OF TRUST WITH THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT.

CHIEF OF POLICE CHARLES V. MADER, CHILMARK, MARTHA'S VINEYARD ISLAND, MASS., ADVISED HE HAS KNOWN STRAIGHT FOR A PERIOD OF APPROX. EIGHT YEARS, THE LAST FOUR YEARS WHILE HE, MADER, HAS SERVED AS CHIEF OF POLICE. 3

CHIEF MADER ADVISED STRAIGHT A VERY CIVIC AND COMMUNITY MINDED INDIVIDUAL WHO GETS ALONG WELL IN THE COMMUNITY AND HAS NEVER GIVEN HIM ANY QUESTION CONCERNING HIS LOYALTY TO THE GOVERNMENT.

CHIEF MADER ADVISED THAT STRAIGHT CURRENTLY RESIDING AT CHILMARK AND NORMALLY DEPARTS SHORTLY AFTER LABO DAY TO RETURN TO NEW YORK.

CHIEF MADER ADVISED DAVID STRAIGHT, SON OF MICHAEL STRAIGHT, CURRENTLY STAYING WITH HIS FATHER AT SUMMER RESIDENCE AT CHILMARK. SON, MICHAEL, CURRENTLY SERVING IN U.S. NAVY IN VIETNAM, AND THREE DAUGHTERS HAVE RETURNED TO NEW YORK TO RESIDE WITH HEIR MOTHER AT UNKNOWN ADDRESS TO CHIEF MADER. CHIEF MADER STATED THAT IN THE PAST STRAIGHT HAS ENTERTAINED SUCH HIGH GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AS FORMER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE ROBERT MC NAMARA AND FORMER ATTORNEY GENERAL NICHOLAS KATZENBACH. / read

END

DCW

FBI WASH DC

115136

VIA TELETYPE
SEP 4 1969 *lee*
ENCIPHERED

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Bishop	_____
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. Felt	_____
Mr. Gale	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

WA 07

344PM URGENT 9-4-69 JAM

TO DIRECTOR PLAINTEXT

FROM NEW YORK 161-3206 6P

0
MICHAEL WHITNEY STRAIGHT, SPI

RE NEW YORK TEL, SEPTEMBER THREE, SIXTYNINE.

INVESTIGATION, SEPTEMBER THREE, SIXTYNINE, BY SPECIAL
AGENT ERNEST W. MINTON AT LAW FIRM, MUDGE, ROSE, GUTHIER
AND ALEXANDER, TWENTY BROAD STREET, NYC.

MILTON C. ROSE, PARTNER, ADVISED APPOINTEE HAS HALF-
BROTHER, WILLIAM KNIGHT ELMHURST AND HALF-SISTER, RUTH
WHITNEY ASH, BOTH BRITISH CITIZENS AND BOTH RESIDE
ENGLAND. HALF-BROTHER RECENTLY MARRIED TO PERSON UNKNOWN
TO ROSE AND WORKS WITH APPOINTEE'S STEPFATHER, LEONARD
KNIGHT ELMHURST IN ENGLAND. HALF-SISTER MARRIED TO
MAURICE ASH AND OWN AND OPERATE FARM IN ENGLAND.

ROSE STATED APPOINTEE'S SISTER, BEATRICE STRAIGHT
COOKSON, FORMERLY MARRIED TO LOUIS DOLIVET PRIOR TO
MARRIAGE TO PETER COOKSON IN OR ABOUT NINETEEN SIXTYSIX.

STATED APPOINTEE HAS TWO SONS, DAVID AND MICHAEL,

END PAGE ONE

*MR. CLEVELAND
ROOM 1246*

yes

*see 9/3 Lt
sc*

*See destroyed
5/20/87
5/20/87*

161-6678-9 / Louis Dolivet

*9/11/77
115137*

PAGE TWO

BOTH SINGLE. DAVID RECENTLY COMPLETED PH.D. DEGREE, UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS, AND MICHAEL SERVING UNITED STATES NAVY. HAS THREE DAUGHTERS, SUSAN, DIANA AND DOROTHY, ALL SINGLE, WHO HAVE BEEN RESIDING APPOINTEE'S SUMMER HOME, MARTHA'S VINEYARD. DIANA AND DOROTHY ANTICIPATE ATTENDANCE, CORNELL UNIVERSITY. ROSE STATED CUSTODY OF DAUGHTERS WERE NOT AWARDED TO EITHER PARENT AT TIME OF DIVORCE DUE TO DAUGHTERS AGES, WHICH WAS CLOSE TO ADULTHOOD.

ROSE ADVISED APPOINTEE'S MOTHER REMARRIED IN OR ABOUT NINETEEN TWENTYSIX AND RETURNED TO ENGLAND TO LIVE. SHE DENOUNCED HER AMERICAN CITIZENSHIP AS DID THE APPOINTEE'S BROTHER, WHITNEY WILLARD STRAIGHT. APPOINTEE KEPT HIS AMERICAN CITIZENSHIP, BUT SUBSEQUENTLY RETURNED TO ENGLAND FOR HIS FORMAL EDUCATION. STATED IN ABOUT NINETEEN THIRTY SEVEN, STRAIGHT RETURNED TO USA AND WENT TO WORK FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE. LATER ENLISTED UNITED STATES AIR FORCE AND IN NINETEEN FORTYSIX, RETURNED TO CIVILIAN LIFE TO WORK AS EDITOR NEW REPUBLIC WHICH HIS FAMILY OWNED. ABOUT NINETEEN FIFTYSIX, APPOINTEE LEFT NEW REPUBLIC WHEN SOLD BY

END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

FAMILY AND DEVOTED TIME TO WRITING BOOKS AND NOVELS.
IN CONJUNCTION APPOINTEE HAS WORKED AS TRUSTEE IN
CHARGE OF HIS FAMILY'S FORTUNE WHICH DEMANDS PRACTICALLY
HIS FULL TIME. ROSE STATED HE IS ALSO CO-TRUSTEE
APPOINTEE'S FAMILY'S FORTUNE AND HE AND STRAIGHT MEET
AT HIS FIRM APPROXIMATELY ONCE A WEEK TO HANDLE MATTERS
CONNECTED THEREWITH.

ROSE DESCRIBED STRAIGHT AS BEING EXTREMELY CAPABLE
AND ABLE AND PERSON OF UNUSUAL ABILITY. VERY IMAGINATIVE,
ORIGINAL THINKER, VERY EARNEST AND PHILANTHROPIC. VERY
CONCERNED WITH FINE ARTS AND COLLECTOR OF PAINTINGS
AND SCULPTURE. KNOWLEDGEABLE AND WELL LEARNED. STATED
APPOINTEE OF EXEMPLARY CHARACTER, INTEGRITY AND
REPUTATION AS IS HIS FAMILY AND DEFINITELY PATRIOTIC
TO USA. RECOMMENDED HIGHLY.
END PAGE THREE

PAGE FOUR

MR. ALBAN VOEGELE, ASSOCIATE ATTORNEY, AFOREMENTIONED FIRM, ADVISED HAS KNOWN APPOINTEE TWENTY FIVE YEARS AND RESPONSIBLE FOR HANDLING APPOINTEE'S TAX PROBLEMS. STATED STRAIGHT PAYS HIGH INCOME TAXES SINCE HE HAS NO BUSINESS DEDUCTION AND NEVER COMPLAINS. EXTREMELY DEVOTED TO THIS COUNTRY AND ITS PRINCIPLES AND NO INCOME TAX JUDGMENTS FILED AGAINST APPOINTEE. REGARDS APPOINTEE AS MOST GENEROUS, CHARITABLE AND ENJOYS ART COLLECTING. WELL REGARDED AS COMPETENT BUSINESSMAN AND IS PRESIDENT OF THE WILLIAM C. WHITNEY FOUNDATION, A CHARITABLE ORGANIZATION FOUNDED BY APPOINTEE'S FAMILY. VOEGELE KNOWS APPOINTEE'S FAMILY MEMBERS AND VOUCHES FOR THEIR FINE CHARACTER AND REPUTATION. DESCRIBED STRAIGHT AS RESPONSIBLE, COMPETENT AND RESOURCEFUL. FELT APPOINTEE WELL QUALIFIED TO HOLD RESPONSIBLE FEDERAL POSITION. RECOMMENDS HIGHLY.

END PAGE FOUR

PAGE FIVE

HERBERT FABER, ASSOCIATE ATTORNEY, AFOREMENTIONED FIRM, ADVISED HAS KNOWN STRAIGHT ABOUT FIFTEEN YEARS THROUGH ASSOCIATION OF THIS FIRM. STATED APPOINTEE DOES NOT WORK FOR FIRM BUT IS CLIENT OF FIRM. STRAIGHT PRESIDENT OF WILLIAM C. WHITNEY FOUNDATION, WHOSE LEGAL TRANSACTIONS ARE HANDLED BY THIS FIRM. STATED HAS GREAT RESPECT AND ADMIRATION FOR STRAIGHT, AND REGARDS AS INTELLIGENT, RESPONSIBLE, AND PERSON OF OUTSTANDING PERSONAL ATTRIBUTES. FABER RELATED HAS HANDLED SEVERAL REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS REGARDING APPOINTEE AND HAS FOUND APPOINTEE TO BE EXCELLENT PERSON TO WORK WITH. HAS MET APPOINTEE'S WIFE ON ONE OCCASION AND CONSIDERS HER TO BE OF SIMILAR CALIBER AS APPOINTEE. FABER RECOMMENDED HIGHLY.

MISS HELEN MOROZ, ASSISTANT SECRETARY TO WILLIAM C. WHITNEY FOUNDATION, ADVISED SHW WORKS INDIRECTLY WITH APPOINTEE REGARDING ABOVE FOUNDATION AND HAS FOR PAST THREE YEARS. DESCRIBED STRAIGHT AS BEING FINE PERSON TO WORK FOR AND PERSON OF OUTSTANDING CHARACTER, REPUATION, AND MORAL INTEGRITY. STATED NO REASON

END PAGE FIVE

PAGE SIX

TO QUESTION LOYALTY, AND FELT WELL QUALIFIED TO HANDLE RESPONSIBLE MATTERS. RECOMMENDED HIGHLY.

MRS. ARA BLANC, ATTORNEY, AFOREMENTIONED FIRM, STATED HAS KNOWN APPOINTEE SINCE NINETEEN FIFTYFIVE AND HAS HANDLED SEVERAL OF APPOINTEE'S PERSONAL FINANCIAL MATTERS. DESCRIBED STRAIGHT AS BEING AN HONEST AND TRUSTWORTHY INDIVIDUAL OF OUTSTANDING ABILITY. HAS MET SEVERAL OF APPOINTEE'S RELATIVES AND REGARD APPOINTEE'S FAMILY AS BEING FINE REPUTABLE INDIVIDUALS. SINCE TIME KNOWN, HAS HAD NO REASON TO QUESTION LOYALTY OF STRAIGHT OR ANY MEMBER OF FAMILY. HIGHLY RECOMMENDED.

MISS SHIRLEY MC LEAN, SECRETARY TO MILTON C. ROSE, PREVIOUSLY MENTIONED, DESCRIBED APPOINTEE AS BEING FINE CULTURED PERSON, THOUGHTFUL AND CONSIDERATE TO EVERYONE. IS SENSITIVE AND ARTISTICALLY INCLINED AND AVID ART COLLECTOR. CONSIDERS APPOINTEE TO BE WELL QUALIFIED TO HANDLE MATTERS OF EXTREME IMPORTANCE, AND RECOMMENDED HIGHLY IN RESPONSIBLE FEDERAL POSITION.

RUC TELETYPE FOLLOWS. P.

END

BKR FBI WASHDC

FBI WASH DC

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

SEP 4 1969

TELETYPE

FBI LASVEGAS

11:04 AM URGENT 9/4/69 SFB

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, LAS VEGAS (161-185) (RUC)

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Bishop	_____
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. Felt	_____
Mr. Gale	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

divorce

MICHAEL WHITNEY STRAIGHT. SPECIAL INQUIRY.

RE NEW YORK TELEPHONE CALL TO LAS VEGAS THIS DATE.

SANDY VIELLE, DEPUTY CLERK, DIVORCE RECORDS, WASHOE COUNTY COURT HOUSE, RENO, NEVADA, ADVISED HER RECORDS REFLECT THAT ON AUG. TWENTY SEVEN, LAST, BELINDA CROMPTON STRAIGHT WAS GRANTED A DIVORCE FROM MICHAEL WHITNEY STRAIGHT AT RENO, NEVADA, ON GROUNDS OF INCOMPATIBILITY.

CAPT. FRANK HART, IDENTIFICATION BUREAU, RENO PD, AND LT. ROBERT KELLERER, IDENTIFICATION BUREAU, WASHOE COUNTY SO, BOTH ADVISED THEY COULD LOCATE NO RECORD IN THEIR FILES REGARDING MICHAEL WHITNEY OR BELINDA CROMPTON STRAIGHT.

CREDIT CHECK WAS NOT CONDUCTED FOR ADMINISTRATIVE REASONS KNOWN TO THE BUREAU.

NO REPORT IS BEING SUBMITTED UACB.

END

JSS

FBI WASH DC

P

161-6678-10

*1 cc destroyed
BPP/may*

54 OCT 29 1969

115143

FBI WASH DC

FBI BOSTON

8:01PM DEFERRED 9-4-69 RDS

TO DIRECTOR

FROM BOSTON (161-) (RUO) 3P

MICHAEL WHITNEY STRAIGHT, SPI.

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Bishop	_____
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. Felt	_____
Mr. Gale	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

MR. CLEVELAND
ROOM 1246

REBTEL TO BU AND NY SEPT. THREE LAST AND BU PHONE CALL TO
BS INSTANT.

DR. ERNEST W. KULKO (MD), ASSOCIATE OF APPOINTEE, ONE ONE EIGHT
EAST SEVENTYTH ST., NEW YORK, NY, WAS INTERVIEWED BY SA JOHN H.
KENOYER AT HIS SUMMER RESIDENCE IN VINALHAVEN, ME., SEPT. FOUR INSTANT.
HE ADVISED HE HAS KNOWN APPOINTEE FOR AT LEAST THIRTY YEARS THROUGH
BEING THE FAMILY DOCTOR AND ATTENDED THE APPOINTEE'S WIFE, BELINDA, AT
THE BIRTH OF HER CHILDREN. DR. KULKO STATED THAT THE APPOINTEE IS
PRESENTLY OCCUPIED WITH THE WRITING OF NOVELS AND THAT HE IS A
TRUSTEE OF A PHILANTHROPIC FOUNDATION FOUNDED BY HIS FAMILY IN NEW YORK
CITY CALLED THE WHITNEY FOUNDATION. HE DESCRIBED APPOINTEE AS BEING
EXTREMELY INTELLIGENT AND CAPABLE AND ONE WHOSE HONESTY, INTEGRITY,
LOYALTY, PATRIOTISM, PERSONAL CHARACTER AND ASSOCIATES HAVE ALWAYS
BEEN ABOVE REPROACH AS FAR AS HE KNOWS. KULKO HIGHLY RECOMMENDED
THE APPOINTEE FOR A POSITION OF TRUST AND RESPONSIBILITY WITH THE
U.S. GOVERNMENT.

MRS. ANGEL MC ALPIN, PRESIDENT, MARTHA'S VINEYARD COMMUNITY
SERVICE PROGRAM, WEST CHOP RD., VINEYARD HAVEN, MARTHA'S VINEYARD,
MASS., ADVISED SHE HAS KNOWN APPOINTEE CASUALLY FOR A PERIOD OF TEN

END PAGE ONE

OCT 29 1969

115144

PAGE TWO

YEARS. KNOWS APPOINTEE TO BE A WRITER AND HIS WIFE TO BE A PSYCHIATRIST AND WIFE HAS ASSISTED IN VARIOUS COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAMS ALONG WITH FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FROM APPOINTEE. MRS. MC ALPIN WOULD RECOMMEND APPOINTEE FOR A POSITION OF TRUST WITH U.S. GOVERNMENT AND IN HER PRESENCE HE HAS NEVER INDICATED ANYTHING SHE WOULD CONSIDER AS BEING DISLOYAL TO THE U.S. GOVERNMENT.

MILTON MAZER, M.D., PSYCHIATRIST, N. WATER ST., EDGARTOWN, 3
MARTHA'S VINEYARD, MASS., ADVISED HE HAS PERSONALLY KNOWN APPOINTEE FOR APPROX. EIGHT YEARS AND FIRST ENCOUNTERED APPOINTEE WHEN APPOINTEE DONATED MONEY TO THE STATE MENTAL HEALTH CLINIC AT MARTHA'S VINEYARD. DR. MAZER ADVISED SINCE THIS TIME HE HAS HAD A NUMBER OF SOCIAL CONTACTS WITH APPOINTEE AND CONSIDERS APPOINTEE TO BE A HIGHLY RESPECTED AND INTELLIGENT MEMBER OF THE SUMMER COMMUNITY AT MARTHA'S VINEYARD. DR. MAZER ADVISED THAT APPOINTEE'S TWO OLDEST DAUGHTERS ARE ENROLLED AT CORNELL UNIV. IN N.Y. DR. MAZER STATED APPOINTEE CONTINUES TO RESIDE AT HIS RESIDENCE AT MARTHA'S VINEYARD WITH HIS SON DAVID AND THE WIFE AND YOUNGEST DAUGHTER HAVE RETURNED TO THEIR HOME IN WASH. DR. MAZER ADVISED HE WOULD RECOMMEND APPOINTEE HIGHLY FOR A POSITION OF TRUST AND COULD FURNISH NO INFO THAT WOULD REFLECT ON THE DISLOYALTY BY APPOINTEE TO HIS GOVERNMENT.

MRS. THEODORE HOWELL, REALTOR, STATE RD., CHILMARK, MARTHA'S 4
VINEYARD, MASS., ADVISED SHE HAS KNOWN APPOINTEE AND HIS FAMILY FOR PERIOD OF APPROX. SIX YEARS AND HAS ASSISTED APPOINTEE AND VARIOUS MEMBERS OF HIS FAMILY IN REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS. MRS. HOWELL ADVISED THAT IN HER OPINION APPOINTEE IS AN EXTREMELY WELL REGARDED,
END PAGE TWO

115145

PAGE THREE

CIVIC MINDED INDIVIDUAL WHO TAKES PART IN VARIOUS CONSERVATION PROGRAMS AND YOUTH PROGRAMS WHILE A SUMMER RESIDENT OF THE COMMUNITY. MRS. HOWELL ADVISED THAT SHE HAS VISITED BACK AND FORTH WITH APPOINTEE FOR A NUMBER OF YEARS AND COULD ONLY FURNISH FAVORABLE INFORMATION CONCERNING APPOINTEE AND HE NOR ANY MEMBERS OF HIS FAMILY HAVE GIVEN ANY INDICATION OF DISLOYALTY TO THE U.S. GOVERNMENT.

CHIEF OF POLICE CHARLES V. MADER ADVISED THAT HIS RECORDS AT CHILMARK, MARTHA'S VINEYARD, MASS., FAIL TO REFLECT ANY ARREST RECORD IDENTIFIABLE WITH APPOINTEE OR ANY MEMBER OF APPOINTEE'S FAMILY. CHIEF MADER ADVISED THAT APPOINTEE'S SUMMER RESIDENCE AT CHILMARK IS LOCATED ON STATE RD. A QUARTER OF A MILE EAST OF THE GAY HEAD AND CHILMARK TOWN LINE AND THE RESIDENCE IS LOCATED ON QUITSA POND AND HAS PHONE NO. SIX FOUR FIVE NINE SEVEN NINE FIVE. *Criminal NR Residence*

MRS. HELEN TYRA, PROBATION OFFICER, DUKES COUNTY, MARTHA'S VINEYARD, WHICH TERRITORY COVERS THE WHOLE ISLAND, ADVISED HER RECORDS FAILED TO REFLECT ANY ARREST RECORD ON THE ISLAND FOR APPOINTEE OR ANY MEMBER OF APPOINTEE'S FAMILY AND SHE HAD CHECKED THESE RECORDS FOR A PERIOD GOING BACK TWENTY YEARS.

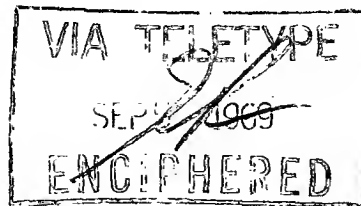
BOSTON INFORMANTS AND SOURCES FAMILIAR WITH SOME PHASES OF COMMUNIST ACTIVITY IN MASS. ADVISED APPOINTEE UNKNOWN TO THEM. IT IS NOTED THERE ARE NO CREDIT BUREAUS FURNISHING DETAILED COVERAGE OF RESIDENTS OF MARTHA'S VINEYARD ISLAND. *Informants Mass. area*

END

R OK BRB

FBI WASH DC

115146



Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. DeLoach _____
Mr. Mohr _____
Mr. Bishop _____
Mr. Casper _____
Mr. Callahan _____
Mr. Conrad _____
Mr. Felt _____
Mr. Gale _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Sullivan _____
Mr. Tavel _____
Mr. Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Miss Holmes _____
Miss Gandy _____

WA08

904PM URGENT 9/5/69 FMW

TO DIRECTOR PLAINTEXT

FROM MIAMI 161-678

MICHAEL WHITNEY STRAIGHT, SPECIAL INQUIRY, BUDED - SEPTEMBER
THREE, LAST.

161-6678-12
ROOM 1246

RE NEW YORK TELEPHONE CALL OF SA ERNEST MINTON SEPTEMBER
FOUR, LAST.

IN REFERENCED TELEPHONE CALL TO MIAMI, NEW YORK ADVISED
MICHAEL LERNER, LERNER MARINE LAB, ONE TWO ONE ONE DUPONT
BUILDING, MIAMI, FLA., WAS CLOSE ASSOCIATE OR ACQUAINTANCE
OF APPOINTEE AND REQUESTED MIAMI INTERVIEW LERNER AND OBTAIN
COMMENTS REGARDING APPOINTEE.

ON SEPTEMBER FIVE, INSTANT, MRS. J. MADEL, SECRETARY
FOR MICHAEL LERNER AND AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY,
ADVISED THAT LERNER IN EUROPE AT PRESENT TIME AND UNAVAILABLE
FOR COMMENT. LERNER PRESENTLY LOCATED AT GRAND HOTEL IN
KURHAUS, BAD TARAST, SWITZERLAND, TELEPHONE NUMBER ZERO EIGHT
FOUR - NINE ONE TWO TWO ONE. AFTER SEPTEMBER TWELVE, NEXT,
LERNER WILL BE LOCATED GRAND HOTEL, BRISTOL, MERANO, ITALY,
TELEPHONE NUMBER TWO THREE THREE - SIX ONE. ON NOVEMBER ONE,

END PAGE ONE

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54 OCT 29 1969

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PAGE TWO

NEXT, LERNER WILL RETURN TO HOME LOCATED AT WESTCHESTER
COUNTY CLUB, RYE, NEW YORK, TELEPHONE NUMBER NINE ONE FOUR -
NINE SIX SEVEN - SIX ZERO ZERO ZERO.

END

WA...JDR

FBI WASH DC

VIA TELETYPE

SEP 5 1969

ENCIPHERED

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. DeLoach _____
Mr. Mohr _____
Mr. Bishop _____
Mr. Casper _____
Mr. Callahan _____
Mr. Conrad _____
Mr. Felt _____
Mr. Gale _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Sullivan _____
Mr. Tavel _____
Mr. Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Miss Holmes _____
Miss Gandy _____

WA...6...FBI NEW YORK

2:14 AM DEFERRED 9-5-69 JAS

TO DIRECTOR ...PLAINTEXT...

FROM NEW YORK 161-3206 3P

2

MICHAEL WHITNEY STRAIGHT; SPI.

MR. CLEVELAND
ROOM 1246

REFERENCE NEW YORK TEL NINE FOUR, SIXTY NINE.

MRS. HARRIETT K. EVISON, ONE FIFTY REMSON STREET,
BROOKLYN, NEW YORK ADVISED SPECIAL AGENT MINTON NINE FOUR SIXTYNINE,
SHE FORMERLY WAS ASSISTANT SECRETARY-TREASURER, WILLIAM C. WHITNEY
FOUNDATION, AND HAS KNOWN APPOINTEE ABOUT THIRTY SEVEN YEARS.
KNOWS FAMILY WELL AND FORMERLY WORKED FOR APPOINTEE'S MOTHER
AS SOCIAL SECRETARY. STATED APPOINTEE TOP NOTCHED IN EVERY
RESPECT, HONORABLE AND TRUSTWORTHY. HIS CHARACTER AND REPUT-
TATION IS ABOVE AND BEYOND AS IS HIS FAMILY'S CHARACTER AND
REPUTATION. SHE STATED STRATIGHT IS A PHILANTHROPIST, AND CONCERNED
WITH HELPING PEOPLE. HAS GIVEN LARGE SUMS OF MONEY TO NEEDY
ORGANIZATION. STATED WELL RESPECTED IN PROFESSIONAL AND
SOCIAL CIRCLES. APPOINTEE HAS NOT EARNED INCOME AND HIS CHEIF
JOB IS HANDLING HIS FAMILY'S FORTUNE. HE HAS ALST WRITTEN
SEVERAL BOOKS AND HISTORICAL NOVELS IN THE PAST YEARS AND HAS
END PAGE ONE

161-6678-13

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BP 2/2/74
340
34 OCT 29 1969

CONFIDENTIAL

115149

PAGE TWO

NY 161-3206

BEEN COLLECTOR OF ART. EVISON STATED APPOINTEE FORMERLY RESIDED NYC AREA MANY YEARS AGO AND ONE TIME OWNED HOME AT APPLE GREEN, OLD WESTBURY, NEW YORK, WHCCH HE SINCE SOLD. EVISON FELT APPOINTEE WOULD BE VALUABLE ASSET FEDERAL GOVERNMENT. RECOMMENDED HIGHLY.

MISS ALICE WINCHESTER, EDITOR OF ANTIQUE MAGAZINE, FIVE FIFTY ONE FIFTH AVENUE, NYC, ADVISED SPECIAL AGENT MINTON NINE FOUR, SIX NINE, ANTIQU MAGAZINE IS OWNED BY STRAIGHT FAMILY, AND HAS BEEN SINCE ABOUT NINETEEN THIRTY. STATED FIRTST MET APPOINTEE ABOUT THIRTY YEARS AGO WHEN ANTIQU MAGAZINE AND THE NEW REPUBLIC MAGAZINE SHARED THE SAME OFFICE SPACE IN NYC. APPOINTEE WAS FORMER EDITOR, NEW REPUBLIC, PRIOR TO FAMILY SALE. STATED KNOWS APPOINTEE'S FAMILY EQUALLY AS WELL AS APPOINTEE, AND REGARDS ALL AS EXCEPTIONALLY NICE PEOPLE. CHARACTERIZED STAIGHT, AS CAPABLE, INTELLIGENT, COMPETENT, AND RESPONSIBLE. DEFINITELY PATRIOTIC AMERICAN. RECOMMENDED HIGHLY.

RECORDS NYC CREDIT BUREAU AS REVIEWED BY INVESTIGATIVE CLERK JOHN L. KAPP NINE FOUR SIX NINE, DISCLOSED SATISFACTORY
END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

NY 161-3206

CREDIT RECORD APPOINTEE. RECORDS INDICATED APPOINTEE'S
GRANDFATHER, WILLIAM C. WHITNEY, SECRETARY OF NAVY, PRESIDENT
GROVER CLEVELAND ADMINISTRATION

RECORDS NYCPD AS CHECKED AT THE REQUEST OF SPECIAL AGENT
AUGUST J. MICEK NINE FOUR SIX NINE, DISCLOSED NO RECORD IDENTIFIABLE
WITH APPLICANT OR RELATIVES.

LIEUTENANT HARRY G. KAPLUN, NASSAU COUNTY POLICE
DEPARTMENT, WHICH COVERS OLD WESTBURY, ADVISED SPECIAL AGENT
JOHN G. FLEMIN NINE FOUR, SIX NINE, NO RECORD IDENTIFIABLE APPOINTEE
OR FAMILY ON FILE.

NEW YORK CONTINUING TO CONTACT DOCTOR SHELTON SIEGEL,
ROCKEFELLER UNIVERSITY, AND ROGER BALDWIN, ALSO WILL REPORT
RESULTS OF CHECK WITH NYCPD BUREAU OF SPECIAL SERVICES.

END

REM FBI WASH DC

1. Cookson, verified
2. 2 more individuals
3. Informer
4. B.S.S.

2 more

VIA TELETYPE
SEP 5 1969
ENCIPHERED

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Bishop	_____
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. Felt	_____
Mr. Gale	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

WA 10

245PM URGENT 9-5-69 JLW

TO DIRECTOR PLAINTEXT

FROM NEW YORK 161-3206 2P

MICHAEL WHITNEY STRAIGHT; SPI

RE NEW YORK TEL NINE FOUR LAST.

INVESTIGATION THIS DATE BY SA ERNEST W. MINTON.

RICHARD RITZEL, PARTNER, MUDGE, ROSE, GUTHRIE AND ALEXANDER, TWENTY BROAD STREET, NEW YORK CITY, ADVISED KNOWN APPOINTEE TWENTY YEARS BASICALLY AS A CLIENT OF ABOVE FIRM. HAS TRAVELED WITH STRAIGHT MANY OCCASIONS AND HAS MET FAMILY MEMBERS. RITZEL HANDLES LEGAL MATTERS AND COURT PROCEEDINGS APPOINTEE'S FAMILY FORTUNE. DESCRIBED STRAIGHT AS SINCERE, EXTREMELY OBJECTIVE IN DECISION MAKING AND PERSON OF HIGH CAPABILITIES. REGARDS ENTIRE STRAIGHT FAMILY AND RELATIVES AS FINE

END PAGE ONE

161-6678-15
OCT 20 1969

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340
OCT 29 1969

115152

PAGE TWO

RESPECTABLE INDIVIDUALS. INDICATED STRAIGHT OF
UNQUESTIONABLE LOYALTY. RECOMMENDS HIGHLY.

JOHN ALEXANDER, SENIOR PARTNER, AFOREMENTIONED
FIRM, HAS HIGH RESPECT AND ADMIRATION APPOINTEE. HAS
KNOWN ABOUT TWENTY YEARS PRIMARILY THROUGH PROFESSIONAL
ASSOCIATION AND HAS SOCIALIZED STRAIGHT. CHARACTERIZED
AS RESPECTABLE, PERSONABLE AND COMPETENT. STRAIGHT
IN CHARGE OF DECISIONS RELATING FAMILY FORTUNE WHICH
DEMANDS HIS FULL TIME. STATED APPOINTEE WELL REGARDED
AMONG BUSINESS ASSOCIATES. ALEXANDER RECOMMENDS HIGHLY.

CONFIDENTIAL SOURCE FAMILIAR CP ACTIVITY
IN OR ABOUT NEW YORK CITY AREA CONTACTED NINE FOUR AND
NINE FIVE LAST, UNABLE TO FURNISH ANY INFORMATION
APPOINTEE OR RELATIVES.

JOHN WISNER, ONE FIVE FOUR EAST SIX TWO STREET,
NEW YORK CITY, ADVISED PETER AND BEATRICE COOKSON HAVE
RESIDED ONE FIVE SIX EAST SIX TWO STREET, PRIVATE HOME,
APPROXIMATELY TWO YEARS AND ENJOY EXCELLENT REPUTATION.
COOKSON'S HAVE TWO MINOR CHILDREN.

RUC TELETYPE FOLLOWS. P.

END

HWL

FBI WASH DC

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE WASHINGTON FIELD	OFFICE OF ORIGIN BUREAU	DATE 9/5/69	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 8/29-9/3/69
TITLE OF CASE MICHAEL WHITNEY STRAIGHT		REPORT MADE BY SA JAMES E. RITTER	TYPED BY paw
		CHARACTER OF CASE SPI	

REFERENCE: Butel to WFO 8/27/69.

- P -

ADMINISTRATIVE

WFO file 100-3644 and Bufile 100-61929 pertains to MICHAEL WHITNEY STRAIGHT, the appointee.

LEAD, WFO:

Will secure comments of ~~U.S. Senators from Virginia and Maryland when available~~. *other acquaintances who were unavailable. Informant checks out.*

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED						<input type="checkbox"/> NONE	ACQUIT-TALS	CASE HAS BEEN:
CONVIC.	AUTO.	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS	RECOVERIES			
								PENDING OVER ONE YEAR <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
								PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO

APPROVED <i>[Signature]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW	
COPIES MADE: ① - Bureau ① - WFO (161-6137)		161-6678-16 REC-23	
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 2-9-88 BY SP8BTJ/cw # 247,561		RECORDED 4 OCT 23 1969	
Dissemination Record of Attached Report		Notations	
Agency			
Request Recd.			
Date Fwd.			
How Fwd.			
By			

54 OCT 29 1969

- A* -
COVER PAGE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to:

Report of:
Date:SA JAMES E. RITTER
9/5/69

Office: Washington, D. C.

Field Office File #:

161-6137

Bureau File #:

Title:

MICHAEL WHITNEY STRAIGHT

Character:

SPECIAL INQUIRY

Synopsis: No record of appointee at the White House Office. Acquaintances recommend. Appointee has maintained a residence for the past five years at 3017 N Street, N.W. He currently subrents his home at this address and when in Washington stays at the Watergate Hotel. He is currently living at one of his residences on Martha's Vineyard, Massachusetts. He is divorced from his wife, BELINDA. His three daughters currently reside with their mother on Fulton Street in Washington, D. C. Their son, MICHAEL, is in the U.S. Navy serving in Saigon, and another son, DAVID, is living with appointee on Martha's Vineyard. Credit records negative concerning appointee. Police agencies were negative concerning appointee and other relatives. No additional pertinent information CSC. No record HCIS and Security Office, Department of State. Passport information set forth. No record U.S. Secret Service. No record AEC Security Files. *N.Y. Senators recommend. Review of writings set out.*

- P -

DETAILS: AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2-9-88 BY SP8 BTJ/L
245,561

WFO 161-6137

JER:mms

1

EMPLOYMENT

The White House Office

SA ERLE L. NORTON, JR. caused a check to be made of the records of captioned office on August 29, 1969. Mrs. JEAN ROBB, Personnel Officer, advised that the files of that Office contained no record for the appointee.

On August 29, 1969, THOMAS M. JONES, Chief of Records, captioned office, advised SA NORTON the files of the office contained no record for the appointee.

2

WFO 161-1637

FFB:raf

1

American Veterans Committee

Mrs. JUNE WILLNZ, National Executive Chairman, American Veterans Committee (AVC), advised SA's JACK A. OWENS, JR. and FORREST F. BURGESS as follows on September 5, 1969.

She met the appointee ^{over 20 years} around ~~18 years~~ ago during the initial organization of the AVC and has had frequent contact with him through the ensuing years. He has served as a National Chairman of the AVC from 1952 to 1954, and has also served, and is presently serving, as a member of the National Board of Directors of the AVC. He is a remarkable individual. He demonstrates decided leadership ability and is a man of knowledge and devotion. He will make "a magnificent addition to any administration." He is strongly anti-Communist and has on many occasions thwarted attempts of Communists to take over the AVC. He is completely trustworthy and dependable. His character and reputation are of the highest quality. He is completely loyal to the U. S. and devoted to it. No information of a derogatory nature concerning him has come to Mrs. WILLNZ's attention, nor has she observed him to have any objectionable habits. She feels he is an "exemplary person", and without any qualification, recommends him for a position of responsibility and trust.

WFO 161-6137

FFB:cn

1

New Republic

ROBERT J. MYERS, Publisher of the "New Republic", 1244 19th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., and Assistant Vice-President of the Harrison-Blaine of New Jersey, Incorporated, advised SA's JACK A. OWENS and FORREST F. BURGESS as follows on September 4, 1969:

The Harrison-Blaine of New Jersey, Incorporated, owns and operates the "New Republic" and the Berlin and Jones, Incorporated, a paper company, 2 East Union Avenue, East Rutherford, New Jersey. Mr. MYERS has been the publisher of the "New Republic" for the last year and has known the appointee for approximately two years. The appointee was the editor of the "New Republic" in the 1940's. His parents set up a fund that founded the "New Republic" in 1914, and this fund was utilized for its operation until 1954. GILBERT A. HARRISON bought a controlling interest in the stock of this publication in 1954, and became its president at that time. During the 1950's, the appointee has been a contributing editor to the "New Republic", but has only written articles for it occasionally.

The appointee has a good mind and is a good writer. He also has acquired a good art collection, having a vital interest in finance for fine arts. He is a responsible and reliable person of excellent character and reputation. His loyalty is unquestionable and no information of a derogatory nature concerning him has come to Mr. MYERS' attention, nor does Mr. MYERS have any knowledge of the appointee having any objectionable habits. Without question, Mr. MYERS recommended the appointee for a position of responsibility and trust.

Mrs. GLENNON MATTHIESON, Business Manager of the "New Republic", advised SA's OWENS and BURGESS as follows on September 4, 1969:

4

The parents of the appointee founded the "New Republic". She has known the appointee since around 1954. At that time he was writing articles for the "New Republic." She has had a casual and infrequent association with him. He is high minded and is most friendly and congenial to his business associates. He has a fine character and reputation. Mrs. MATTHIESON has had no reason to doubt his loyalty to the United States. No information of a derogatory nature concerning him has come to her attention, nor has she observed him to have any objectionable habits. She recommended him for a position of responsibility and trust.

Amnesty International

Mr. PAUL J. LYONS, Executive Director of Amnesty International of the United States of America (USA), Incorporated 1213, 1346 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C., advised SA's OWENS and BURGESS as follows on September 4, 1969:

He first met the appointee around April, 1966. The appointee served as Chairman of Board of the Amnesty International of the USA, Incorporated, from January, 1966 to March, 1968, and Chairman of the National Advisory Council of the Corporation from 1968 to the present time. Around January, 1967, the Amnesty International of the USA, Incorporated, expanded as a result of a foundation operated by the appointee's family.

The appointee is keenly intelligent and congenial and compatible with other people. He is a moderate person in all his habits. He has an "unusual spirit of civic mindedness." He is eager to serve and does not try to steal the lime light from other people in the activities of any organization which he is a part of. He is trustworthy and responsible. His character and reputation are outstanding. Mr. LYONS has no doubt about the loyalty of the appointee to the United States. Mr. LYONS recalls that Professor CHARLES QUIGLEY, of Georgetown wrote a book crediting the appointee as being a major force in weakening the Communist Party in the United States in 1950. Mr. LYONS also recalls that the appointee joined with Anti-Communist elements in the American Veterans Committee (AVC),

5

WFO 161-6137

3

a newly formed Veterans organization after World War II to thwart Communist elements in this organization, which sought to take control of it. He recommended the appointee for a position of responsibility and trust.

6

115160

U.S. SENATORS from NEW YORK

The following senators were contacted by SA RICHARD T. TAYLOR, JR, on September 3, 1969:

Senator JACOB K. JAVITS advised that he has known appointee for many years and considers him to be a personal friend. He has attended many social and public functions with appointee in New York City and Washington, D.C. He is an intelligent and capable person, who is interested in the arts. He is an excellent writer and completely loyal to the United States. He is anti-communist and has used his influence to thwart the communist movement. Senator JAVITS gave appointee his highest personal recommendation for a position of trust and responsibility with the Federal Government.

Senator CHARLES E. GOODELL advised that he knows appointee, but is not a personal friend of the appointee. He is aware of his writings and knows appointee enjoys an excellent reputation. He believes appointee is completely loyal to the United States, and would recommend him for a position of trust.

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RDA:pjm

1

ACQUAINTANCES

ANTHONEY W. SMITH, President, National Parks Association, 1701 18th Street N. W., Washington, D. C., advised SA ROGER D. ASHLAND on September 2, 1969 that he has known the appointee for over twenty-five years. He stated the appointee is a member of the Board of Trustees of the National Parks Association. The appointee became a member of the Board in 1964. For several years the appointee served on the Executive Committee of the National Parks Association. SMITH stated the appointee is an extremely fine person. He has been very valuable and helpful to the National Parks Service with advice. SMITH stated the appointee has an excellent reputation in every respect and his character is impeccable. He knows nothing unfavorable concerning the appointee. SMITH said he knew of no reason to question the appointee's loyalty to the United States. He added the appointee is an expert in the publishing field. He said the appointee was formerly editor of the magazine "News Republic." The appointee's associates, who are known to SMITH, are persons who are active in the work of the National Parks Association. SMITH described these persons as very fine people. The appointee has a wide range of interests in the Fine Arts field. The appointee is the author of a number of publications. He recommended him for a position of trust and responsibility in the Government.

SMITH stated there are no other persons at the National Parks Association Office in Washington, D. C., who would know the appointee since the present organization's staff is relatively new.

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JER:paw

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On September 4, 1969, BELINDA C. STRAIGHT, a medical doctor engaged in the practice of psychiatry, 3000 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., advised that she married the appointee in September, 1939, and obtained a divorce from him on grounds of incompatibility in Reno, Nevada, August, 1969. Five children were born of this marriage; namely, DAVID WILLARD STRAIGHT, who was born October 28, 1942; MICHAEL WILLARD STRAIGHT, who was born July 14, 1944; SUSAN ROMILLY STRAIGHT, who was born July 2, 1948; DIANA DOROTHY STRAIGHT, who was born December 14, 1950; and DOROTHY ELMHIRST STRAIGHT, who was born May 25, 1958. DAVID is living at the present time on Martha's Vineyard with his father. MICHAEL is in the U.S. Navy serving in Saigon. The three daughters are living with her at the present time at 4707 Fulton Street, N.W. Prior to her separation from Mr. STRAIGHT in the spring of 1969 and her divorce from him in August, 1969, she and Mr. STRAIGHT and their children resided at 3017 N Street, N.W., when in the Washington, D. C. area. Mr. STRAIGHT has maintained this residence for over the past five years. He also had an estate in Virginia and maintains a residence on Martha's Vineyard, Massachusetts. He comes from an extremely wealthy background and travels extensively. He was associated with the publication, "New Republic", which his family funded for many years. Mr. STRAIGHT was associated with this publication from approximately 1940 to 1954. He originally served as the editor of this magazine but later merely wrote articles for it occasionally. Since 1954, he has served on the boards of various organizations but has been writing novels and has not been employed by any outside interests. He has been serving as President of the William C. Whitney Foundation, New York City, New York, which his family founded, and which concerns itself with the arts, having made many grants in the fields of music, dance, theater, and painting.

He is an officer of several corporations, one of which publishes the magazine "Antiques." He was a National Chairman of the American Veterans Committee, Chairman of the Board Amnesty International of the U.S., Vice-Chairman of the National Repertory Theater, a board member of the Washington

WFO 161-6137

2

Theater Club, and co-Chairman of the Washington Chapter of the Legal Defense Fund of the NAACP. He is a resident of the District of Columbia and a home owner on Martha's Vineyard, where he is president of the Vineyard Conservation Society.

He was one of a panel of three judges who picked "2001: A Space Odyssey" to be the U.S. entry in the Moscow Film Festival in July, 1969; it won a special award. As an advisor to the U.S. delegation, he attended the festival and flew with the film to the capitols of Eastern Europe, where it was shown in a series of special showings during the Apollo 11 Flight.

One of his writings is "Carrington", his first novel, which was published in 1960. Some of his other works included "A Very Small Remnant", which was published in 1964. A book "Trial by Television" was published in 1954, which dealt with the confrontation between Senator McCARTHY and the Army. His first book entitled "Make This the Last War" was described as the best of all peace books. Mrs. STRAIGHT vouched for his character, associates, reputation, and loyalty and recommended him most highly for a position of trust and responsibility.

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WFO 161-6137

JER:mms/paw

1

CREDIT AND POLICE AGENCIES

SE SAMUEL T. MORRIS caused a search to be made of the files of The Credit Bureau, Incorporated, Washington, D. C., and was advised on August 29, 1969, that the files contained no record for the appointee.

IC KENNETH SHAFFER on August 28, 1969, determined that no record was contained in the Metropolitan Police Department files concerning the appointee, his divorced wife, BELINDA CROMPTON STRAIGHT; sons, DAVID WILLARD STRAIGHT and MICHAEL W. STRAIGHT; and daughters, SUSAN R. STRAIGHT, DIANA DOROTHY STRAIGHT, and DOROTHY ELMHIRST STRAIGHT. *DE WILSON* *VR* *NET NAM*

BOOK JULY 14, 1944
It is to be noted that at all times an indefinite number of unidentified records are out of file and not available for review.

On August 29, 1969, IC THOMAS S. HARRELL searched the files of the U.S. Park Police and no identifiable record could be found concerning the appointee and the above-named persons.

WFO 161-6137

JER:mms

1

MISCELLANEOUS

SE MAX A. PFOUST caused a search to be made of the files of the Bureau of Personnel Investigations, Civil Service Commission, and was advised on September 2, 1969 that no additional pertinent information was found concerning the appointee. ✓

The files of the House Committee on Internal Security were reviewed by SE SAMUEL T. MORRIS on September 2, 1969 and no additional pertinent information concerning the appointee could be located.

SA KENNETH J. HASER caused a search to be made of the files of the Office of Security, Department of State, and was advised on September 2, 1969 that no record was found concerning the appointee. ✓

The files of the Passport Office, Department of State, were reviewed by SA JOSEPH A. CONNORS, JR. on November 4, 1958. They disclosed passport number 1250595 was issued to MICHAEL WHITNEY STRAIGHT on October 6, 1958.

His passport application, dated September 26, 1958, disclosed his permanent residence as 6300 Green Spring Road, Alexandria, Virginia. He was born September 1, 1916 at Southampton, Long Island, New York. He stated on his passport application that during the past five years he was in Great Britain in July, 1954 and August, 1954; also in March, 1955, April, 1955, and July and August of 1955. He was also in Great Britain in October and November, 1956; July and August, 1957, and November, 1957. He indicated that from July, 1957 to November, 1957 he was in France, Germany, and Switzerland.

His father was WILLARD STRAIGHT, born in Oswego, New York in 1882 and who died in 1917. His mother is DOROTHY WHITNEY, born in Washington, D. C. in 1888 and who was living as of 1958 in South Devon, England.

Appointee married BELINDA CROMPTON STRAIGHT on September 15, 1940. She was born August 15, 1920 at Rye, wif

WFO 161-6137

2

New York.

He listed his occupation as "writer", and gave his mailing address as 1244 19th Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Appointee indicated that he planned to leave New York City on October 22, 1958 for a two-week trip to Great Britain for business and family reasons.

business + family reasons

In response to the questions appearing on his passport application, "Are you now or have you ever been a member of the Communist Party?" appointee answered "No" to each question.

His file reflects that passport number 414645 was issued to him on June 17, 1954 for a two-week trip to Great Britain to handle business as a trustee for the family trust whose situs was both in the United States and Great Britain.

business

A passport renewal was issued on April 30, 1952 for passport number 289550 (which was previously issued on May 31, 1950) for a one month trip to visit England and France. At the time this passport was renewed his occupation was listed as Editor of the "New Republic", 40 East 49th Street, New York City, New York. This passport was renewed from April 30, 1952 until May 30, 1954.

encl

The passport number 62275 was issued on April 19, 1946 for a one month trip to visit England. This passport was renewed on May 27, 1949 for two years. At the time he obtained his renewal passport, series number 2474, appointee indicated he would take a seven-week pleasure trip to visit England, France, Switzerland, and Italy.

The passport number 147418 was issued on September 18, 1934 for travel to England and other countries for one year as a student. According to information in the file, the appointee

student

was to leave New York City on September 20, 1934. On September 18, 1934 this passport was renewed for two years and at that time the appointee's legal residence was listed as 1172 Park Avenue, New York City, New York. Appointee registered with the American Consul at Plymouth, England on August 26, 1936. At that time he stated he resided at Dartington Hall, Totnes, Devon, England, where he was residing temporarily with relatives. *Roseline*

Passport number 55 dated July 7, 1930 was issued by the American Consul at Plymouth, England for travel to Switzerland, France, Germany, Italy, and was also for return to the United States. This passport was renewed for two years July, 1932. At that time his address was listed as Dartington Hall, Totnes, Devon, England.

Appointee related on his passport application that he resided in the United States from April until the end of May, 1926, and from June, 1926 until approximately July, 1930 when he lived at Totnes, Devon, England residing there temporarily with his mother. He stated he intended to return to the United States in five years when he completed his schooling. At that time he was 13 years old.

The files of the Passport Office, Department of State, were reviewed on September 2, 1969 by SE JOHN R. CRUMP and the information therein was brought up to date since they were previously reviewed in 1958.

The files disclosed the appointee was issued passport number C-730937 on October 30, 1962. The application was not in the file and could not be located. On October 22, 1965 this passport was renewed for a proposed two-week trip to Great Britain to visit his parents. His permanent residence was listed as 6300 Green Spring Road, Alexandria, Virginia. *visit
relatives*

On July 18, 1967 he was issued passport number H-1011842 for a proposed three-week business and pleasure trip to England and Italy. He listed his permanent residence as 3017 N Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. *business
pleasure*

WFO 161-6137

4

The files contained no additional pertinent information.

On September 3, 1969 IC THOMAS S. HARRELL caused the files to be searched at the United States Secret Service, Department of the Treasury, and was advised that no record concerning the appointee could be located.

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WFO 161-6137

JER:cn

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On August 29, 1969, SA PETER P. OSINSKI
determined that no record concerning the appointee was
contained in the Personnel Security Files, Division of
Security, United States Atomic Energy Commission,
Germantown, Maryland. ✓

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115170

WFO 161-6137

HLB:jmg

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The following investigation was conducted by SA HASKEEL L. BROYLES at the Library of Congress, Washington, D. C., on September 5, 1969, and obtained from Book Review Digests concerning books which have been written by Mr. MICHAEL WHITNEY STRAIGHT.

1. "Make This The Last War"; the future of the United States by Mr. WHITNEY consists of 417 pages, published in 1943 by Harcourt. It was reviewed by DOROTHA DAWSON, Library Journal, Wilson Library Bulletin for January, 1944. Mr. STRAIGHT deals with the advantages that flow ^{from} United Nations collaboration. He calls for a Federated Europe, pivot of a of a federated world, but holds that unless there is a fundamental change in the social structure of Europe there will be no basis for European Federation. His outline of a social change is sweeping and concrete. Generally speaking, he is a 145 percent New Dealer who would retain war-time emergency measures long after the war ends. He apparently is not afraid of the bad effect which the omnipresent governments ~~usgally~~ exercise on human rights and individual freedom.

1954
2. "Trial ~~by~~ Television" by MICHAEL WHITNEY STRAIGHT, Editor of "The New Republic", has written a vivid and penetrating book about the Army - Mc Carthy Hearings. For 15 chapters, Mr. STRAIGHT's book is mainly good color reporting and interpretation not neutral, of course, but with a forthright, unconcealed Crusading Partisanship. Senator MC CARTHY's friends will not like the book. In the final chapter, however, Mr. STRAIGHT goes deep into the causes of Mc Carthyism, which far antedate the Junior Senator from Wisconsin. Here he is eloquent and disturbing.

3. "Carrington"; a novel of the West by MICHAEL WHITNEY STRAIGHT, published in 1960 by Knopf and contained 374 pages. The Book Review Digest contains several reviews of this book by Mr. STRAIGHT and are summarized as follows:

The novel deals with the ambush and massacre of 81 men under the command of Lieutenant Colonel W. J. FETTERMAN

WFO 161-6137

HLB:jmg

2

in Northern Wyoming on December 21, 1886. None survived the ordeal and old Army records prove that FETTERMAN, A Civil War Hero, was acting in defiance of explicit orders of his Commanding Officer, Colonel HENRY CARRINGTON, yet CARRINGTON, the Senior Officer of the regiment was held responsible for the disaster. He takes a look at one of Western Fiction's most popular themes, the white man who risks the brand of cowardice in order to try to deal fairly instead of ruthlessly with the hostile indians. Book reviews concerning this novel by Mr. STRAIGHT were published in the "New York Herald Tribune" book review, page 8, April 17, 1960, "Booklist," dated July 15, 1960, "The Chicago Sunday Tribune" page 13, dated May 15, 1960, "The New York Times" book review page 5, dated April 24, 1960 and the "San Francisco Chronicle", page 24, dated April 24, 1960.

4. "A Very Small Remnant," by MICHAEL WHITNEY STRAIGHT published in 1963 by Knopf containing 232 pages. Several reviews were made of this book and indicate it is a historical novel based on the United States behavior to the Indians during the often bloody westward expansion at the close of the Civil War. The story is based on actual fact and told by a real historical figure, Major EDWARD WYNKOOP, a Calvaryman who in 1864 negotiated peace with the Cheyennes.

VIA TELETYPE
SEPT 1969
ENCIPHERED

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. DeLoach _____
Mr. Mohr _____
Mr. Bishop _____
Mr. Casper _____
Mr. Callahan _____
Mr. Conrad _____
Mr. Felt _____
Mr. Gale _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Sullivan _____
Mr. Tavel _____
Mr. Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Miss Holmes _____
Miss Gandy _____

WA 1

103 PM DEFERRED 9-8-69 JAM

TO DIRECTOR PLAINTEXT

FROM NEW YORK 161-3206 2P *huc*

MR. TOLSON
ROOM 1246

W MICHAEL WHITNEY STRAIGHT, SPI

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2-9-88 BY 247, 561

CONTAINED
DATE 2-9-88 BY SP8 BTJ/CCL

RE NEW YORK TEL NINE FIVE SIXTYNINE.

DR. SHELTON SIEGEL, VICE PRESIDENT OF POPULATION
COUNCIL, ROCKEFELLER UNIVERSITY, YORK AVENUE AND SIXTY
SIXTH STREET, NEW YORK CITY, ADVISED SA MINTON NINE FIVE
SIXTYNINE HAS KNOWN APPOINTEE THROUGH CORRESPONDENCE
WILLIAM C. WHITNEY FOUNDATION. STATED HAS CONTACTED
APPOINTEE VARIOUS OCCASIONS FOR POSSIBLE GRANTS TO
POPULATION COUNCIL AND STRAIGHT COOPERATIVE THIS RESPECT.
DESCRIBED APPOINTEE AS VERY INTELLIGENT, UNDERSTANDING
AND RELIABLE. FELT QUALIFIED TO HANDLE RESPONSIBLE
POSITION. RECOMMENDED HIGHLY.

by

161-6678-17

REVEREND CANON WILLIAM CHASE, ASSISTANT MINISTER, OCT 12 1969
ST. JAMES EPISCOPAL CHURCH, EIGHT SIX FIVE MADISON
AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY, ADVISED SA MINTON NINE FIVE
SIXTYNINE FIRST MET STRAIGHT IN UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

AM

END PAGE ONE 1969 340

*1 cc destroyed
B.P. Holmes*

115173

PAGE TWO

WHEN CHASE CHAPLAIN AND ASSIGNED SAME AIR STATION.

STATED APPOINTEE AIR CADET IN NINETEEN FORTYTHREE
AND LATER SERVED AS FLIGHT INSTRUCTOR DURING WORLD WAR

II. STATED SOCIALLY ACQUAINTED APPOINTEE AND FAMILY
AND RESPONSIBLE FOR BAPTIZING APPOINTEE'S CHILDREN.

ALSO PRESIDED MEMORIAL SERVICE APPOINTEE'S MOTHER JANUARY

LAST IN NEW YORK CITY. REGARDED STRAIGHT OUTSTANDING
IN CHARACTER INTEGRITY AND REPUTATION AS HIS FAMILY.

CONSIDERS APPOINTEE LOYAL TO USA. RECOMMENDS HIGHLY.

NYCPD BUREAU OF SPECIAL SERVICES AS CHECKED BY SA
AUGUST J. MICEK SEPT. FIVE DISCLOSED MICHAEL WHITNEY
STRAIGHT MEMBER OF NATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR AN EFFECTIVE
CONGRESS AS OF JANUARY TWENTYFIVE NINETEEN SIXTYEIGHT.
STRAIGHT AS OF NINETEEN FIFTY ONE NATIONAL CHAIRMAN
OF AMERICAN VETERAN'S COMMITTEE. NO DOCUMENTATION
AVAILABLE REGARDING THE ABOVE WITH EXCEPTION AVC WHICH
DOCUMENTATION IS IN POSSESSION OF BUREAU.

ROGER BALDWIN NOT LOCATED FOR INTERVIEW.

NO REPORT BEING SUBMITTED.

RUC.

END

JTJ FBI WAS DCXXX

JTJ FBI WASH DC

F B I

Date: 9/8/69

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL _____
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, F.B.I.

FROM: SAC, WFO (161-6137) (RUC)

MICHAEL WHITNEY STRAIGHT,
SPI

ReWFOrep dated 9/5/69.

On 9/5/69 PHILIP AMRAM, Attorney at law, 1700 17th Street, N.W., advised that he has known appointee through his active participation in the arts. Appointee is a wealthy individual who has been a contributor financially and otherwise in the cultural field. His character, loyalty, reputation and associates have been unquestionable, and he would recommend him for a position of trust.

Washington confidential informants were contacted and could furnish no additional information to the information previously set forth in WFO and Bureau files.

① Bureau
1- WFO
JER:am
(2)

161-6678-18

XMM

54 OCT 29 1969

Approved: _____

Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____

M

Per _____

115175

F B I

Date: 9/8/69

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL _____
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, NEW YORK (161-3206)

SUBJECT: MICHAEL WHITNEY STRAIGHT
SPI
BUDED 9/3/69

Re New York telephone conversations with offices listed below 9/3 and 9/4/69.

This is to confirm our telephone discussion regarding contacting various organizations and person acquainted with appointee in your territory.

Inquiry New Republic, NYC, 9/3/69, disclosed only two people at that address. Mr. FRANCIS MC ADAMS, Advertising Director, advised that main office of New Republic located 1244 19th Street, N.W.

Inquiry William C. Whitney Foundation, 20 Broad Street, NYC, 9/3/69, disclosed appointee Chairman of Amnesty International, 1346 Connecticut Avenue, Washington, D.C. Following persons acquainted appointee: PHILIP STEIN, 1632 O Street, N.W., BENJAMIN BRADLEE, Washington Post, 1515 L Street, N.W., both Washington, D.C., LEWIS KIMBELL, Headmaster, Potomac School, Mc Lean, Virginia, MICHAEL LERNER, Lerner Marine Labs, 1211 Dupont Building, Miami, Florida, Mrs. ANGEL MC ALPIN, President, Martha's Vineyard Community Services, Vineyard Haven, Massachusetts, Dr. ERNEST W. KULKA, 118 East 70th Street, NYC, who is vacationing in Maine, telephone number 207-863-2256, ANTHONY WAYNE SMITH, President, National Parks Association, 1701 18th Street, N.W. Washington, D.C.

- ① - Bureau
- 1 - Alexandria
- 1 - Boston
- 1 - Miami
- 1 - Washington Field
- 1 - New York

161-6678-19
NOT RECORDED

3 SEP 9 1969

EWM:amd

(7) 340

Approved: _____

Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____

M

Per _____

115176

NY 161-3206

As previously requested, interested offices handle interviews in your territory.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE ALEXANDRIA	OFFICE OF ORIGIN BUREAU	DATE 9/9/69	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 8/29 - 9/5/69
TITLE OF CASE MICHAEL WHITNEY STRAIGHT		REPORT MADE BY SA HARVEY E. WILKINSON	TYPED BY dkS
		CHARACTER OF CASE SPECIAL INQUIRY	

REFERENCE: Bureau teletype, 8/27/69;
WFO airtel, 8/29/69.

- P -

LEADS:

ALEXANDRIA

AT ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA

Will report results of [redacted] on appointee and relatives when completed. *WIS check*

- A* -

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED						<input type="checkbox"/> NONE	ACQUIT-TALS	CASE HAS BEEN:
CONVIC.	AUTO.	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS	RECOVERIES			
								PENDING OVER ONE YEAR <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
								PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO

APPROVED <i>[Signature]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW	
COPIES MADE:		161-6678-20	
① - Bureau		NOT RECORDED	
1 - Alexandria (161-176)		14 SEP 11 1969	

Dissemination Record of Attached Report					Notations <i>Spec. Inq.</i>
Agency					
Request Recd.					
Date Fwd.					
How Fwd.					
By					

54 OCT 29 1969

COVER PAGE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to:

Report of: HARVEY E. WILKINSON Office: Alexandria, Virginia
Date: September 9, 1969
Field Office File #: 161-176 Bureau File #:
Title: MICHAEL WHITNEY STRAIGHT
Character: SPECIAL INQUIRY
Synopsis: Employee of appointee, Mr. JOHN QUAST, highly favorable in comments. LEWIS E. KIMBALL, Jr., associate of appointee, highly recommends.

- P -

DETAILS:

On September 3, 1969, Mr. JOHN QUAST, 4525 Greenspring Road, Alexandria, Virginia, advised that he has been in the employ of the STRAIGHT family for about 40 years, and has worked directly for the appointee perhaps 25 to 30 years. He stated he is presently the caretaker for the property owned by the appointee at 3600 Greenspring Road, Alexandria. He explained that the appointee, the appointee's family, and his wife all resided on the estate up until early 1964, when Mr. STRAIGHT purchased the home on N Street in Georgetown area of Washington, D.C., from the former owner, Mrs. JACQUELINE KENNEDY, and took up residence there. At that time, the STRAIGHTs leased their property on Greenspring Road and have not lived there since then.

He further stated that he understands that Mr. and Mrs. STRAIGHT are now separated and contemplating getting a divorce, if not already done so. He added, however, that any bills he receives in connection with the estate, he merely forwards on to Mr. STRAIGHT at the N Street address in Georgetown.

He further stated that as far as he is concerned, both Mr. and Mrs. STRAIGHT are exceedingly fine individuals and wonderful employers. They have always been very considerate and kind to him, they give him the instructions they wished followed in connection with the estate and then leave him alone to carry out these instructions. He vouched for the appointee's character, associates, reputation, and loyalty and highly recommended him for a position of trust and confidence.

On September 5, 1969, Mr. LEWIS E. KIMBALL, Jr., Head Master, Potomac School, 1345 Potomac School Road, McLean, Virginia, advised he has been associated with the appointee for at least five years or longer. He explained that Mr. STRAIGHT up until a year ago, was a member of the Board of Trustees of the school and also Mr. STRAIGHT's children, at one time or another, attended the school as students. Currently, Mr. STRAIGHT's youngest child, DOROTHY, is a sixth grade student at the school. He described Mr. STRAIGHT as "top flight". Currently Mr. STRAIGHT is vacationing at Martha's Vineyard in Massachusetts and he understands that Mr. and Mrs. STRAIGHT are now separated and contemplating a divorce. He stated he did not know the reason for this divorce or any of the details and did not know where Mr. STRAIGHT would reside upon his return to the Washington, D.C. area. He stated, however, that in his opinion, both Mr. and Mrs. STRAIGHT were both individuals whose character, reputation, associates, and loyalty is above reproach. He recommended the appointee for a position of trust and confidence with the United States Government.

5010-106

Memorandum

Tolson _____
DeLoach _____
Mohr _____
Bishop _____
Casper _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
Felt _____
Gale _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

DATE: 9/10/69

FROM : W. V. Cleveland

SUBJECT: MICHAEL WHITNEY STRAIGHT
SPECIAL INQUIRY - WHITE HOUSE

~~Declassify on: OADR~~

My memorandum dated 8/27/69 (attached) advised that at the request of the White House an investigation was being conducted concerning Mr. Straight, aged 53. Mr. Straight is being considered for a Presidential appointment, position not stated. The 9/4/69 issue of "The Washington Post" indicates Mr. Straight is being considered for the position of Deputy Chairman, National Council on the Arts.

The White House was previously furnished a summary memorandum dated 12/28/50 containing the results of investigation conducted concerning Mr. Straight prior to December, 1950. That investigation developed information concerning Mr. Straight's association with various communist front organizations.

Since 1963 Mr. Straight has been contacted by the FBI on a number of occasions. He has furnished information concerning his association with communist groups and his contacts with a Russian espionage apparatus during the late 1930's and the early 1940's. (S)

The White House was previously furnished, as a result of a name check conducted by the Crime Records Division, the results of a 6/18/63 interview of Mr. Straight by the FBI. In this interview Mr. Straight furnished detailed information concerning his communist activities and contacts with the Russian espionage apparatus during the late 1930's and 1940's. This interview is also being included as an enclosure to the current summary (S) (U)

Mr. Straight is President of the William C. Whitney Foundation, New York, New York, and is a noted author. He is also engaged on a full-time basis as trustee in charge of his family's estate. Mr. Straight is currently described as being anticommunist.

Enc. sent 9-11-69

1 - ~~Mrs. Brown~~
1 - Mr. DeLoach
1 - Mr. Sullivan
1 - Mr. Gale
1 - Mr. Cleveland
1 - Mr. Fisher

BPF : mgh (7)

OCT 24 1969

~~ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE~~

115181

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN

Memorandum to Mr. Gale
Re: Michael Whitney Straight

~~SECRET~~

Mr. Straight's former brother-in-law, Louis Dolivet, has been described by reliable informants as being an active international communist agent in early 1930. Since Louis Dolivet's arrival in the United States in 1939, he is not known to have engaged in espionage or communist activities. He is described as pro-American and anti-Soviet; however, other informants are of the opinion that Louis Dolivet is an inactive, but highly placed, Soviet agent. Mr. Straight's sister, as of September, 1950, was reportedly separated from Louis Dolivet and she since married an actor by the name of Peter Cookson. (U)

Mr. Straight advised the FBI in 1967 that his daughter, Susan Romilly Straight, while attending Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, in 1966 was associated with a group of students which was affiliated in general with the Students for a Democratic Society.

STATUS: Investigation complete except for records checks at two governmental agencies. Any additional information which can be developed concerning Mr. Straight's association with Louis Dolivet will also be furnished to the White House.

ACTION: Attached for approval is a letter to Mr. Ehrlichman transmitting the results of current investigation to the White House.

[Handwritten marks: a large checkmark, a signature "Jef", and other initials]

~~SECRET~~

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Bishop	_____
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. Felt	_____
Mr. Gale	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

VIA TELETYPE
SEP 11 1969
ENCIPHERED

WA...04

FBI NEW YORK

1-05 MAM DEFERRED 9-11-69 WPK
TO DIRECTOR (PLAINTEXT)
FROM NEW YORK 161-3206 2P *ru*

MR. CLEVELAND
ROOM 1248

MICHAEL WHITNEY STRAIGHT, SPI.

REBUTEL CONVERSATION WITH NEW YORK, SEPTEMBER TEN,
SIXTY NINE.

INFORMANTS FURNISHING POSITIVE INFORMATION LOUIS
DOLIVET, NOW DECEASED. CURRENT INFORMANTS FAMILIAR WITH
COMMUNIST PARTY ACTIVITY, NYC AREA, CONTACT THIS DATE
AND UNABLE TO FURNISH ANY INFORMATION REGARDING APPOINTEE
OR DOLIVET.

MILTON ROSE, PARTNER, MUDGE, ROSE, GUTHRIE AND ALEXANDER,
TWENTY BROAD STREET, NYC, CONTACTED THIS DATE AND ADVISED
LAST HEARD DOLIVET RESIDES PARIS, FRANCE. STATED APPOINTEE
HAS NOT SEEN DOLIVET IN OVER TWENTY YEARS. DOLIVET
ASSOCIATED MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY AND COMES USA ONCE OR
TWICE A YEAR ON BUSINESS, BUT HAS NO SOCIAL OR BUSINESS
ASSOCIATIONS WITH APPOINTEE.

54 OCT 29 1969 340
END PAGE ONE

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BP 2/10/70*

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PAGE TWO

REVEREND CAVON WILLIAM CHASE, ST. JAMES EPISCOPAL CHURCH, EIGHT SIXTY FIVE MADISON AVENUE, NYC, FRIEND OF STRAIGHT FAMILY, ADVISED THIS DATE DOLIVET FRENCH CITIZEN AND HAS NOT BEEN IN USA IN YEARS. STATED KNEW OF NO ASSOCIATION BETWEEN STRAIGHT AND DOLIVET.

MRS. HARRIETT EVISON, FRIEND OF FAMILY, UNAVAILABLE.

NO REPORT BEING SUBMITTED.

RUC.

END

WA....RM

FBI WASHH DC



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20535

September 10, 1969

9-885/64
2-9-88
SEARCHED
INDEXED
SERIALIZED
FILED
SEP 11 1969
FBI - NEW YORK

MICHAEL WHITNEY STRAIGHT

This summary memorandum covers the period since December, 1950. Mr. Straight was born on September 1, 1916, in Southampton, New York.

Employment

Mr. Straight continues to serve as President, William C. Whitney Foundation, New York, New York. He continued to serve as a contributing editor to the magazine "New Republic," New York, New York, until approximately 1956. The "New Republic" is self-described as "A Journal of Opinion."

Mr. Straight is also engaged on a full-time basis as trustee in charge of his family's estate.

In addition to the aforementioned employments, Mr. Straight has written several books. These books are described as being primarily historical novels.

He is now or has been a member of numerous social, civic, and professional organizations. He is now serving or has served in the past on the governing boards of some of these organizations. Among these organizations are the American Veterans Committee, the Amnesty International of the United States of America, the National Parks Association, the Washington Theater Club, and the Washington, D. C., chapter of the Legal Defense Fund of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, all Washington, D. C.

Marital Status

Mr. Straight and the former Belinda Crompton were married on September 10, 1939. The records of Washoe County Court, Reno, Nevada, disclose Belinda Crompton Straight was granted a divorce from Mr. Straight on August 27, 1969, on the grounds of incompatibility. The records contain no information of a derogatory nature.

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GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and declassification

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Michael Whitney Straight

Mrs. Belinda C. Straight, Washington, D. C., advised she obtained a divorce from Mr. Straight in Reno, Nevada, in August, 1969, on the grounds of incompatibility. Mrs. Straight stated that prior to the Spring of 1969, she and Mr. Straight and their five children maintained a residence at 3017 N Street, Northwest, Washington, D. C. She added she has since moved to 4707 Fulton Street, Northwest, Washington, D. C., and Mr. Straight is currently occupying his summer home located in Chilmark, Martha's Vineyard, Massachusetts.

Mrs. Straight advised she would vouch for Mr. Straight's character, associates, reputation, and loyalty. She stated she would recommend him most highly for a position of trust and responsibility.

Mr. Straight and his son, David, reside on State Road, Chilmark, Martha's Vineyard, Massachusetts. When in Washington, D. C., Mr. Straight resides at The Watergate Hotel, 2650 Virginia Avenue, Northwest, Washington, D. C. Mr. Straight also maintains an estate located on Green Spring Road, Alexandria, Virginia.

Military Service

He continued to serve in the United States Army Officers' Reserve Corps, inactive service, until April 1, 1953, when his appointment as a second lieutenant was terminated by reason of declination of an indefinite term. His service record is clear.

Interviews

June A. Willenz, National Executive Chairman, American Veterans Committee, Washington, D. C., advised she was first associated with Mr. Straight over twenty years ago during the initial organization of the American Veterans Committee. She stated she has had frequent contact with Mr. Straight through the ensuing years. Mrs. Willenz related Mr. Straight served as National Chairman of the American Veterans Committee from 1952 to 1954 and is presently serving as a member of the National Board of Directors of this organization. She stated Mr. Straight is a remarkable individual who has demonstrated decided leadership ability and will make "a magnificent addition to any administration."

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Michael Whitney Straight

She described him as being strongly anticommunist. She explained by stating a number of years ago communist elements attempted on a number of occasions to take over the American Veterans Committee. She advised Mr. Straight was primarily responsible for thwarting the attempts by the communist elements to take over this organization. Mrs. Willenz described Mr. Straight as a man of knowledge and devotion who is completely trustworthy and dependable. She said Mr. Straight's character, associates, and loyalty are above reproach. Mrs. Willenz concluded by stating she feels Mr. Straight is an exemplary person and she would recommend him without any qualification for a position of trust and responsibility.

Harriett K. Evison, New York, New York, advised she has known Mr. Straight and members of his family for approximately thirty-seven years. She related she formerly worked for Mr. Straight's mother as a social secretary and subsequently she was employed as an assistant secretary-treasurer, William C. Whitney Foundation, New York, New York. Mrs. Evison described Mr. Straight as being top-notch in every respect. She said Mr. Straight is a philanthropist and concerned primarily with helping people and has given large sums of money to needy organizations. She advised Mr. Straight is well respected in professional and social circles and is noted for his authorship of historical novels. Mrs. Evison stated she would recommend Mr. Straight and his family without any hesitation regarding their character, reputation, loyalty, and associates. She stated she felt Mr. Straight would be a valuable asset to the Federal Government and would highly recommend him for a position of trust and confidence.

Ernest W. Kulka, M.D., New York, New York, interviewed in Vinalhaven, Maine, advised he has been closely associated with Mr. Straight and his family for at least thirty years. He stated Mr. Straight is engaged in writing novels and is also President of the William C. Whitney Foundation, New York, New York, which is a philanthropic foundation founded by Mr. Straight's family. Dr. Kulka described Mr. Straight as being an extremely intelligent and capable individual. He stated Mr. Straight's honesty, integrity, loyalty, character, and associates have always been above reproach. He stated he would highly recommend Mr. Straight for a position of trust and responsibility with the United States Government.

Alice Winchester, Editor, "Antiques," New York, New York, advised the "Antiques" magazine has been owned by the Straight family since about 1930. She stated she has been associated with

Michael Whitney Straight

Mr. Straight for about thirty years, relating that the "Antiques" magazine and the "New Republic" magazine formerly shared the same office space in New York, New York. Miss Winchester said Mr. Straight and his family are regarded as exceptionally nice people. She described Mr. Straight as a capable, intelligent, competent, and responsible individual who is definitely a patriotic American. She advised she would highly recommend Mr. Straight for a position of trust and responsibility.

Milton C. Rose, Senior Partner, Mudge, Rose, Guthrie, and Alexander, law firm, New York, New York, advised the William C. Whitney Foundation is a client of this law firm. He stated the William C. Whitney Foundation is a charitable organization created by Mr. Straight's parents in memory of his grandfather, William C. Whitney. Mr. Rose related Mr. Straight has served as President of this foundation since its inception in 1937.

Mr. Rose advised Mr. Straight devotes his time primarily to writing novels and handling his duties as trustee in charge of his family's estate. He described Mr. Straight as being an extremely capable person of unusual ability. He stated Mr. Straight is an imaginative, original thinker who is engaged in various philanthropic enterprises. He said Mr. Straight has always exhibited an interest in the fine arts and is a collector of paintings and sculptures. Mr. Rose concluded by stating Mr. Straight's and his family's reputation, character, associates, and loyalty are above reproach. He said he would highly recommend Mr. Straight for a position of trust and responsibility with the United States Government.

Jacob K. Javits, United States Senator from New York, interviewed in Washington, D. C., advised he has known Mr. Straight for many years and considers him to be a personal friend. He stated he has attended many social and public functions with Mr. Straight in both New York, New York, and Washington, D. C. Senator Javits described Mr. Straight as an intelligent and capable person who is interested in the arts. He said Mr. Straight is an excellent writer and is completely loyal to the United States. He related Mr. Straight is anticommunist and has used his influence to thwart the communist movement. He said he would give Mr. Straight his highest personal recommendation for a position of trust and responsibility with the Federal Government.

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Michael Whitney Straight

Charles E. Goodell, United States Senator from New York, interviewed in Washington, D. C., advised he knows Mr. Straight primarily by reputation. He stated he is aware of Mr. Straight's writing and knows Mr. Straight enjoys an excellent reputation. Senator Goodell related he believes Mr. Straight is completely loyal to the United States and he would recommend him for a position of trust.

Twenty-two additional persons, consisting of social acquaintances, co-workers, neighbors, and professional associates were interviewed. They furnished favorable comments concerning Mr. Straight's character, reputation, loyalty, morals, ability, and associates. Persons well acquainted with him stated he is a dependable, trustworthy, and intelligent person. He was recommended for a position of trust and confidence. Persons acquainted with the other members of Mr. Straight's family advised they are all reputable individuals.

Close Relatives

In addition to his former wife and son, mentioned previously, Mr. Straight has the following close relatives:

Father	Willard Dickerman Straight deceased
Mother	Dorothy Whitney Straight Elmhurst deceased
Stepfather	Leonard Knight Elmhurst Totnes, England
Son	Michael Willard Straight United States Navy
Daughter	Susan Romilly Straight Washington, D. C.
Daughter	Diana Dorothy Straight Washington, D. C.
Daughter	Dorothy Elmhurst Straight Washington, D. C.

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Michael Whitney Straight

Brother	Whitney Willard Straight London, England
Sister	Beatrice Straight Dolivet Cookson New York, New York
Half brother	William Knight Elmhurst London, England
Half sister	Ruth Elmhurst Ash Totnes, England

Credit and Arrest Checks

Information has been received from the appropriate credit reporting agencies in the continental United States indicating their files contain either no record or no additional pertinent information concerning Mr. Straight.

Information has been received from the appropriate law enforcement agencies in the continental United States indicating their files contain no information concerning Mr. Straight or his close relatives, except the following:

The records of the Fairfax County Police Department, Fairfax, Virginia, disclose Mr. Straight's former wife, Belinda C. Straight, on March 27, 1964, was charged with a traffic violation (failure to obey highway sign). She elected to forfeit collateral in the amount of \$22.75. On April 25, 1964, she was charged with a traffic violation (speeding) and she elected to forfeit collateral in the amount of \$17.75.

The records of the Fairfax County Police Department, Fairfax, Virginia, also disclose Mr. Straight's daughter, Susan R. Straight, on December 22, 1965, was charged with a traffic violation (failure to obey traffic officer). She elected to forfeit collateral in the amount of \$22.75.

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Michael Whitney Straight

Passport Record

The records of the Passport Office, Department of State, Washington, D. C., disclose Mr. Straight has been issued several passports since 1930 for travel to Europe for the purposes of study, pleasure, and business. The last passport was issued on July 18, 1967, for a proposed three-week business and pleasure trip to Europe. The records contain no additional pertinent information.

Miscellaneous

Information Concerning Mr. Straight

The December 6, 1952, issue of the "Times-Herald," a Washington, D. C., newspaper, reported that Michael Straight, president of the William C. Whitney Foundation, was questioned before a special committee of the United States House of Representatives investigating tax-exempt foundations. According to the article, Mr. Straight was questioned concerning \$19,000 in grants by the Foundation which were made to organizations "cited as subversive or communist fronts. Straight contended that none of these organizations was known to be a communist front at the time grants were given and said they were cut off when so listed."

In 1955, "Michael Straight, Publisher, The 'New Republic,'" was listed as a signer of "A Petition to the President of the United States on Amnesty for Smith Act Victims and Postponement of Trials."

Since 1963, Mr. Straight has been contacted by the FBI on a number of occasions and he has furnished information concerning his association with communist groups in England and his contacts with a Russian espionage apparatus after his return to the United States. These activities occurred during the late 1930's and the early 1940's. The enclosed communication sets forth the results of a June 18, 1963, interview with Mr. Straight. (S) 2

Information Concerning Daughter, Susan Romilly Straight

Mr. Straight, in 1967, advised his daughter, Susan Romilly Straight, while attending Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, in 1966, had associated with a group of students which was affiliated in general with the Students for a Democratic Society.

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Michael Whitney Straight

The Students for a Democratic Society is a pro-Marxist and anarchistic organization which has been deeply involved in campus revolts and anti-Vietnam demonstrations in the United States.

Mr. Straight's daughter, Susan, was one of three persons observed on September 19, 1967, placing handbills on cars located in the parking lot of the Pentagon Building, Arlington, Virginia. The handbills carried the wording, "Exorcise the Pentagon, 10/21-22," also an artist's drawing of a figure of a female and the words "Martin Carey - Artist." On instructions of the United States Attorney's Office, Alexandria, Virginia, these individuals were released by the Pentagon Building Police Department.

The name Sue Straight was included on a list of those in attendance at the National Mobilization Committee to End the War in Vietnam, Administrative Committee Meeting, which was held on October 7, 1967, in New York, New York.

Information Concerning Former Brother-in-law, Louis Dolivet

Mr. Straight's sister, Beatrice, married Louis Dolivet on February 21, 1941, and as of September, 1950, they reportedly were separated. In about 1966, Mr. Straight's sister married Peter Cookson.

Informants, who have furnished reliable information in the past, advised that in early 1930 Louis Dolivet was an active international communist agent in Europe. He was allegedly active in several communist front organizations in France and Switzerland. Louis Dolivet was reportedly a close associate of Willie Muenzenberg, an admitted Soviet agent in Europe, who was reportedly assassinated by the communists. Since his arrival in the United States in 1939, Louis Dolivet is not known to have engaged in espionage activities or communist subversive activities. His employers recommended ~~(S)~~ (U)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Michael Whitney Straight

him as being pro-American, and anti-Soviet. Other informants are of the opinion that Louis Dolivet is an inactive, but highly placed, Soviet Agent. ~~(S)~~ (U)

Informants, who have furnished reliable information in the past and who are acquainted with some phases of communist activity in the Washington, D. C., New York, New York, and Massachusetts areas, were contacted and they advised they were unable to furnish any additional pertinent information concerning Mr. Straight or members of his family.

Agency Checks

Information has been received from the following governmental agencies indicating their files contain either no record or no additional pertinent information concerning Mr. Straight:

Bureau of Personnel Investigations,
Civil Service Commission; House
Committee on Internal Security;
Office of Security, Department of
State; Defense Central Index of
Investigations and United States
Army Investigative Records Repository,
Fort Holabird, Maryland; [National
Security Agency, Fort George G. Meade,
Maryland;] United States Atomic Energy
Commission; United States Secret Service;
and the White House Office.

The central files of the FBI, including the files of the Identification Division, contain no additional pertinent information concerning Mr. Straight.

Enclosure

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

June 25, 1963

~~Classified by SP8 BTJ/cil~~
~~Declassify on: OADR 2-9-88~~

MICHAEL WHITNEY STRAIGHT

Straight was interviewed on June 18, 1963, at Washington, D.C., by Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and furnished the information set forth hereafter.

Straight advised he was born September 1, 1916 at Southampton, Long Island, New York. His father, Willard Straight, died two years later and he was taken to England where he was raised and educated. His mother was occupied with various interests and also remarried a few years following the death of his father. Straight said in effect his early life was that of an orphan although he suffered from no lack of material things.

Straight stated he entered Cambridge University in the fall of 1934 and was domiciled at Trinity College. He said he developed a warm and lasting friendship with John Cornford, two years his senior, whom he described as a brilliant student and confirmed Communist. Straight stated Cornford was killed in action in late 1936 during the Spanish Civil War while fighting for the Loyalist cause and he had been the one who broke the news to his parents in 1937 when the death became known. Straight said the loss of his friend had a profound affect upon him.

Straight related during his second year at Cambridge he joined a student Communist group in the university which numbered perhaps twenty-five members. He said to his knowledge the members did not carry Communist Party cards, or pay regular party dues, and were not formally affiliated with the British Communist Party. Straight said they did hold meetings, contribute to the Party and its front organizations, and participate in demonstrations. Straight said the group was headed by John Cornford, above, and James Klugmann, also a brilliant student and dedicated Communist, who later served the British Government during World War II and was in liaison between Great Britain and the Yugoslavs. Straight advised other student

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE.

ENCLOSURE

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RE: MICHAEL WHITNEY STRAIGHT

members of the Communist group readily recalled were Brian Simon, of Birmingham, England (son of Sir Ernest Simon, Governor of British Broadcasting Company), J. M. Ever, a graduate student somewhat older than Straight, Leslie Humphreys, Leo Long, and Hugh Gordon, a roommate of Straight at Trinity College.

Straight stated during "his second year at Cambridge he was also admitted to the well known secret "Conversazione Society" (The Apostles), which he described as an ancient discussion society which was "non-conformist" but not political and was somewhat similar in character to a secret fraternity in the United States. This organization held meetings weekly at which papers were presented and various political and cultural topics were discussed. Straight said although the society was not political he later learned there were Communist Party (CP) members in the organization such as Guy de Mancy Burgess and Professor Anthony Blunt but pointed out the membership also included many distinguished persons such as Lord Bertrand Russell and Lord John Maynard Keynes.

Straight advised through his associations in the "Conversazione Society" he had come into contact with Guy Burgess and Professor Anthony Blunt, mentioned above. Straight mentioned he had also met Burgess through his brother, Whitney Willard Straight who was well acquainted with Burgess although he did not know how they met. Straight said his brother was an automobile racing enthusiast and did not know of any common interests with Burgess. Straight described Burgess as brilliant and interesting but stated he was physically repulsive, unkempt in appearance, a drunkard, a notorious and promiscuous homosexual and a known Communist.

Straight described Professor Anthony Blunt as a young professor of languages perhaps five or six years his senior, and stated Blunt was also well known as a confirmed homosexual. Straight said Blunt resided at Cambridge University and taught the French language. Blunt was even then an expert in the field of fine art and today is regarded as a leading expert in this field. For the past ten years or so Blunt has been Director of the Courtauld Institute, a well known gallery of art founded by Samuel Courtauld, Blunt is also "Keeper of the Queens Pictures," including the Richmond Park Collection and now bears the knighted title Sir Anthony Blunt.

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RE: MICHAEL WHITNEY STRAIGHT

Straight related that sometime after the death of John Cornford became known, Professor Blunt invited him to a meeting and Straight visited Blunt in his University quarters. Blunt told Straight that he and an associate had been watching him and informed Straight that the death of Cornford had focused attention on Straight. It was pointed out by Blunt that Cornford made the supreme sacrifice and Blunt suggested that Straight should also make some comparable sacrifice. Straight said he did have a sense of guilt that he had not fought in Spain as well as deep sorrow over the death of Cornford. Straight said Blunt requested that he discontinue his work in the Communist movement in England and turn to work in the international field. Blunt said the Third International wanted a man in Morgan and Company to obtain economic reports and requested Straight to proceed to the United States on this mission. Straight said he protested vigorously stating he was not cut out to be a banker and was not interested. He said he told Blunt that his family was in England, and pointed out that he had aided the cause by contributions to the "Daily Worker" and other party interests and would continue to do so. Straight stated that some three weeks elapsed and then Blunt informed him that his protests had been rejected and he should proceed to the United States. Straight said he left England by ship but was still protesting and he addressed a letter to Blunt from aboard ship again pointing out that he felt his contributions to the Party and "Daily Worker" were sufficient.

Referring to the unidentified associate of Blunt, Straight recalled that Blunt had mentioned that his friend was not working in the Government but was working against the Germans. Straight said he had the feeling that Guy Burgess was the individual associated with or directing Blunt and stated he inquired whether Burgess was this individual. He said Blunt declined to give him a straight answer.

Straight advised before departing England, Blunt indicated he would be contacted and requested some token from him for the purpose of identification. He said he gave Blunt a small blue ink drawing of his sweetheart, now Mrs. Straight, which Blunt tore in half, returning one half to him and retaining the other half. Straight said later in the interview there may have also been an oral parole arranged but he could not remember its terms.

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RE: MICHAEL WHITNEY STRAIGHT

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ Straight stated from conversations with Leslie Humphreys and Leo Long, both students at Cambridge University, he suspected that Anthony Blunt may have attempted recruitment of these young men for underground work. Straight stated Humphreys was his classmate and close friend, and said Humphreys was near collapse as result of his experience with Blunt. Straight described Humphreys as a young dilettante and said he was a member of the student Communist cell or group.

In connection with the contributions mentioned above, Straight recalled he had made unsolicited gifts of cash to the "Daily Worker" and also directly to Harry Pollitt, then Secretary of the British Communist Party. Straight described Pollitt as a true English working class figure and a fine fellow, and said he got along well with Pollitt.

Straight stated he had met Pollitt in the summer or autumn of 1936 and had probably been introduced to him by Bill Campbell, Editor of the "Daily Worker." Straight recalled his first contribution to the Worker stating in 1936 he walked in "cold" and contacted Campbell. He told Campbell he was a member of the student Communist group and wanted to help. Campbell was first mildly interested and then astonished when Straight contributed the sum of approximately \$2,000. Straight explained these gifts also were the result of his feeling of guilt because he had plenty of money and saw many people lacking bare necessities.

Straight mentioned that he had participated in the Student's March on May Day 1936 and this fact was brought to the attention of John Maynard Keynes by Lord Simon, a Government official who indicated darkly if this conduct continued it might prevent Straight from obtaining British citizenship. Straight said Lord Keynes had advised him that he told Lord Simon that this was merely a student indiscretion and should not be held seriously against him.

Straight advised in August, 1936, he had taken part in a student tour to Russia. The trip was organized by John Madge, fellow student, and Communist, whose brother, Charles Madge, was also a Communist, and later poet and sociologist. Straight advised the tour was financed through sale of tickets to the students and mentioned free passage was awarded to each student who sold four tickets for the tour. Straight said the

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RE: MICHAEL WHITNEY STRAIGHT

trip began by ship to Leningrad and included visits to Moscow and the Ukraine cities of Kharkov and Kiev. Straight stated he was shaken by his observations on this trip and related his experience included observing railroad guards shoot at boys who were "riding the rails." He said he was shocked at such wanton cruelty and believes this was the beginning of his ultimate disillusionment.

Straight mentioned that Professor Blunt had accompanied the student tour to Russia. Straight said when he first became acquainted with Blunt he was unaware Blunt had any Communist connections and recalled only that Blunt was "mildly Marxist" in his writing on art and art history.

Straight advised in July, 1937, he came to the United States following graduation from Cambridge the previous month and resided at the apartment residence of his mother and stepfather at 1172 Park Avenue, New York City, since his mother had returned to England.

In the late Summer of 1937, he made a tour of the Middle West chauffeuring Roger Baldwin, head of the American Civil Liberties Union on a speaking tour. They were accompanied by John Simonds, English student, also from Cambridge University, who was later killed in World War II. The tour ended about September 10, 1937, and Straight recalled having celebrated his twenty-first birthday, September 1, 1937, at St. Louis, Missouri.

Straight stated he looked around for a job and recalled contacting Edward Stettinius of United States Steel in this connection. He related sometime between October, 1937, and March, 1938, and probably in December, 1937, he received a phone call at his home from an unknown man who identified himself as Michael Green. This man seemed embarrassed and apologized for delay in contacting Straight. Although Straight could not recall any further conversation of this initial telephone contact, he is certain he sensed immediately it had originated with Anthony Blunt and made arrangements with Green for personal meeting which was consummated.

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~~RE: MICHAEL WHITNEY STRAIGHT~~

Straight stated he could not now recall what method of identification was used by Green to identify himself as the person Blunt had indicated would contact him. He did not remember whether or not Green was in possession of the torn half of the ink drawing previously mentioned nor could he recall whether a parole was used but subsequently said he thought there may have been a verbal parole.

Straight stated he had a couple such meetings with Green during this period in New York City and recalled on one occasion walking through Central Park and visiting the park zoo during the stroll. Straight said in these early meetings Green made no demands or proposals but endeavored to study and appraise him and appeared to have prepared topics and lines of conversation to test his thoughts and points of view and to shape his mind. On his part, Straight said he was agreeable and understanding and supposed that Green trusted him but did not regard Straight as a dedicated communist. Straight mentioned he told Green about his friendship with two White Russians, Sergei Vassiliev and his wife Tamara Daykarhanova, both professional drama teachers, and said Green was annoyed. Straight said Green also expressed displeasure about his friendship with Roger Baldwin.

Straight said in March or April, 1938, he came to Washington, D. C., and resided at 1718 H Street, N. W., in a bachelor apartment next door to the Metropolitan Club. He was interested in government employment and first considered connection with the National Resources Planning Board. He recalled making a trip to a settlement in West Virginia and said Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, whom he knew, was present. Shortly thereafter through the assistance of Mrs. Roosevelt, he was given an assignment, without salary, under Herbert Feis, Economic Advisor, Department of State who is currently with the Institute of Advanced Studies, Princeton University. The assignment was to prepare a report "The Economic Consequences of European Rearmament." Straight said his office consisted of a small group and included Roy Veatch, Leroy Stinebower, and Fred Livesay, now deceased.

Straight mentioned he lived about one year at 1718 H Street, N. W., and in Summer of 1939 moved to 1025 Connecticut Avenue, N. W., where he lived with Roy Veatch, Beverly

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RE: MICHAEL WHITNEY STRAIGHT

Bowie, an editor of National Geographic magazine, since deceased, and briefly one Walter, last name not recalled, who was with the Foreign Policy Association. About July, 1939, he took over a house jointly with Roy Veatch and wife at 2811 Dumbarton Avenue, N. W., and in September, 1939, he was married to Belinda Compton. Straight said he and his wife lived at Hay Adams House for a month and then moved to 109 Prince Street, Alexandria, Virginia.

Straight advised his first connection with Department of State in 1938 was not conventional employment and he was not under strict discipline and therefore was in and out of the office and the city to some extent during this period. He said he is sure he had advised Michael Green of his plans and sometime after his arrival in Washington, Green called him by phone and thereafter they had three or four meetings at intervals of approximately one month. Straight mentioned Green had never furnished him with his address or telephone number but recalled at some time, probably prior to the time Green absented himself for a lengthy period, Green informed him that if he should find it necessary to contact Green he could accomplish this by communicating with Alexander Koral. Straight said Green furnished him with the address of Koral which was in Brooklyn, New York, but could not remember the address. Straight said he had never had occasion to contact Koral and had never seen or heard from him. Several photographs of Koral and his wife Helen Koral were displayed to Straight who was unable to identify either as anyone he had ever seen.

Straight recalled having two luncheon meetings with Green. On one such occasion they had lunch at a small restaurant on Pennsylvania Avenue, N. W., between 19th and 20th Streets, on another they ate at a place near the Ontario Theatre, 1700 Columbia Road, N. W. Straight said they discussed topics of current interest and he may have furnished Green with memoranda which he prepared from public material and his personal knowledge.

Straight mentioned in this connection that the lengthy report "Economic Consequences of European Rearmament" which he prepared for Cordell Hull and which occupied his time until December, 1938, was based entirely or almost entirely on public source material.

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X RE: MICHAEL WHITNEY STRAIGHT

Straight said he recalled another meeting with Green which occurred in the evening. He said he and Green drove around during this meeting and on this occasion he gave Green two official State Department documents and let Green out of the car somewhere in the area bounded by 12th Street and Connecticut Avenue, N. W., and Florida Avenue and K Street, N. W., so he could have copies made. Straight subsequently picked Green up by arrangement. Straight described the documents as unimportant and not highly classified, and stated he did not have access to any highly classified material. Straight described one of the documents as a memorandum of perhaps two pages on International Trade and dealing with trade with Italy. The other document was a mimeographed pamphlet, described by Straight as a "Political Summary," possibly on the subject of conditions in Europe, and apparently prepared for the information of Foreign Service personnel. It was based mostly on public source material. Straight had nothing to do with preparation of these documents. He said they were not for public consumption and may have borne classification "Confidential," but he was not certain.

Straight recalled another meeting with Green in Washington, D. C., during which they had dinner at a restaurant located near the Union Depot and believed to have been Childs Restaurant. Straight remembered Russia had just attacked Finland (November 30, 1939) and said Green was upset about this. He also recalled that some newsworthy speech had been delivered by Otto Kussinen.

Straight advised he had left his voluntary employment at the Department of State in early 1939. He said he told Michael Green about this and the latter was dissatisfied but was mollified when Straight told Green he might get a job at the War Department, which story Straight invented.

Shortly after leaving the State Department, Straight made the acquaintance of Thomas Gardner Corcoran, well known New Dealer, who arranged for him to be employed at the Department of Interior where he wrote non-classified speeches for members of the Cabinet in connection with the coming presidential election. Straight said he recalled meeting with Green on one occasion while with Department of Interior and remembered preparing a memorandum for Green concerning the Nazi - Soviet

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RE: MICHAEL WHITNEY STRAIGHT

~~pact.~~ In this memorandum, Straight said he argued that the Russians might feel they were compelled to make the pact for their military protection, but if they extended its application to the "International" it would mean that communists all over the world would oppose the Allied Powers. He said he urged the Soviets not to undermine the war efforts of France and Great Britain.

Straight said he remained at the Department of Interior until early Summer 1940 and spent the late summer with his family on a ranch in Wyoming. He returned to Washington, D. C., and on August 27, 1940, at the personal offer of a position by James Dunn, he was appointed Division Assistant, Division of European Affairs, Department of State, remaining in this position until May 21, 1941. Straight stated he did not hear from Green during this entire employment and observed he had not wanted Green to know about it.

Straight stated after leaving the Department of State in May, 1941, he moved to his family home at Westbury, New York, and noted that he did not hear from Green again until Autumn, 1942, shortly before he enlisted in the United States Army Air Corps. Straight said he had not seen Green for two years and had no idea where Green had been or what he was doing. Straight said Green called him and he met Green at the Jamaica, New York, railroad station and drove him around for an hour or more. He did not recall that Green made any requests or suggestions, but merely ascertained what Straight was doing and they engaged in discussion. Straight said he must have seen Green on another occasion about this time since he was certain about the dinner meeting with Helen Green at Longchamps restaurant, although he cannot fix the time, and is very certain Helen was introduced as the wife of Green, and that they comported themselves as a happily married couple. Straight also said it was his clear impression that Helen Green had the full confidence of her husband and he believed Green had told him to be at ease since she could be trusted completely.

Straight advised in connection with his last meetings with Green he informed Green that he was going into the Air Corps and declared it was understood between them that there was no further advantage in their relationship and that it was at an end. Straight stated firmly from the time of these last meetings he never saw or heard from Green

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RE: MICHAEL WHITNEY STRAIGHT

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nor was he ever approached by anyone purporting to represent the communist underground or Soviet intelligence.

Straight stated he had written a book entitled "Make This The Last War" which was published toward the end of 1942 by Harcourt and Brace. Straight said the essence of the book was that the Soviets had to stop paying lip service to democracy or another great war was inevitable. Straight mentioned that he had discussed this with Maxim Litvinoff, then Soviet Ambassador to the United States, and said he prepared a memorandum for Michael Green summarizing the substance of his book.

Straight recollected in connection with his book that the publisher had given a "book party" to which Earl Browder, head of the Communist Party, USA, was invited by the publisher. Straight said he was introduced to Browder, whom he had not met before, but engaged in no serious conversation. Straight recalled that Green had wanted him to meet his wife, and had also desired that he meet Earl Browder whom Green described as a fine fellow.

Straight described Michael Green as about 35-40 years in 1937, 5 feet 10 inches, 170 pounds, hair black, thick, coarse and wiry, average complexion, average dress, pleasant disposition with sense of humor. Straight said Green spoke good English but he was not a native American and Straight believed him to be Russian. Straight recalled Green had discussed getting established in some small business, possibly insurance, and solicited his suggestions. Straight thought perhaps the cities of Baltimore and Philadelphia were mentioned, and the thought occurred that maybe Green came from Philadelphia. Straight said he never knew where Green lived or where he may have been employed and could furnish name of no person who knew Green, other than Alexander Koral.

Straight furnished description of Helen Green advising he saw her on the single occasion in the dimly lit dining room of Longchamps and he did not obtain a complete description. His best recollection is that she was about 35-40 years of age when he met her, very tall, possibly 5 feet 10 inches, light or blonde hair, nice appearance but not

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RE: MICHAEL WHITNEY STRAIGHT

beautiful, very quiet, definitely American but not Southerner. He said she was not from New York but could be from the Midwest.

Photograph of William Grienke was displayed to Straight who immediately and positively identified the picture as that of the man he had known as Michael Green.

A confidential source, of known reliability, who is a former Soviet Intelligence Officer, identified photograph of William Grienke as one Akhmerov, first name not recalled, whom he first knew, in Moscow in 1931 as a worker in the Sixth Division of the Foreign Department of the Soviet State Security Organization, which division covered intelligence operations in the Near East and Far East. Grienke entered the United States on a fraudulent passport in August, 1935, using the identity of a child who had died one month after birth in New York. In connection with the application upon which this fraudulent passport issued, Alexander Koral executed the affidavit of identifying witness, stating that he had known Grienke for about fifteen years. (U)

Straight further related that during a period of absence of Green, and probably during 1939-1940, he had received a visit in Washington, D. C., from a young man who indicated in some way that he came from Michael Green. Straight said he had lunch with this man on Pennsylvania Avenue, N. W., around 19th or 20th Street, and recalled the man had three or four written questions which he thought concerned Cabinet shifts and other political questions, and which were rather stupid. Straight said he declined to cooperate with the man and never saw him again. He described the man as "about 24-25 years, 5 feet 10 inches, plump, American, from New York, Jewish."

Straight also stated during the period 1940-1942, during absence of Green, he was contacted by a man who called him in New York and made appointment. He met this person for half hour over a drink. This unknown man also informed Straight that in the absence of Green he wanted to ask a few questions. Straight said he declined to cooperate with this man. Straight described the man as about 30 years of age, 5 feet 10 inches, fair complexion, foreign accent, English not good. Straight had the impression that the man might be a Czech although he could not recall sound basis for this opinion. Straight did not feel the man was a professional intelligence officer.

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RE: MICHAEL WHITNEY STRAIGHT

~~X~~ Straight advised some time subsequent to his first Washington meeting with Michael Green and in the Summer, 1938, he received a phone call at work in the Department of State from an individual who identified himself as Solomon and said he worked for the Treasury Department. Straight could not recall whether Solomon was the first or last name of this man but stated he could identify the man and would recognize the full name if it were shown to him among a list of names. Straight said he did not believe Solomon visited his office but met him briefly for lunch and had recollection of walking with Solomon along Pennsylvania in front of the White House.

Straight advised Solomon informed him that someone had referred Straight to him as a Communist in the Department of State. Solomon told Straight not to be concerned but to "lay low" and promised that he would be contacted. Straight inferred there was a CP group in the State Department. Straight said he inquired if the individual who referred him to Solomon was Donald Stephens and Solomon intimated it was without specifically stating this was true. Straight described Donald Stephens as an old time radical who was a friend of his mother since the 1920's, and a friend of Mrs. Roosevelt. He said Stephens was a non-conformist who believed in free love and abstained from use of meat or liquor. Straight said he did not regard Stephens as a Communist.

Straight said he endeavored to inform Solomon that he had the wrong man and that he was merely a liberal minded economist and student of John Maynard Keynes. Straight said Solomon did not mention any associates or principal and made no reference to Earl Browder or his own affiliation with the CP. Straight stated he never saw Solomon again and never heard from him.

Straight described Solomon as apparently a bit older than himself (then 22 years), slender, "typically Jewish." Photographs of Solomon Aaron Lischinsky and Solomon Adler were displayed to Straight who immediately identified pictures of Adler and then recalled the full name from newspaper publicity in connection with the espionage revelations of Elizabeth Bentley.

Straight recalled he told Green about his contact with Solomon and Green did not appear concerned and merely laughed. He said Green did not caution or admonish him concerning Solomon; Straight was unable to make any conclusion whether Green and Adler were associated or even acquainted and did not interpret the reactions of Green as suggesting either.

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RE: MICHAEL WHITNEY STRAIGHT

Whitaker Chambers, deceased, an admitted communist, and courier in Soviet espionage operations, identified Solomon Adler, also known as Schlomer Adler, as an employee of the Treasury Department who furnished reports of a financial nature to Chambers' Soviet principal.

Elizabeth Terrill Bentley, an admitted communist, and courier in Soviet espionage operations, identified Adler as an active member of a Soviet espionage group, active in Washington, D. C., prior to 1944. She further identified him as a dues paying member of the Communist Party.

Adler, a naturalized citizen, departed the United States in May, 1950, for England and was expatriated on December 14, 1953.

Further concerning Guy Burgess, Straight advised Burgess was a known Communist and had been a member of the Communist group at Cambridge University, preceding Straight as a student by couple of years. Straight advised about 1934 or 1935, Burgess ostensibly broke with the Communists, and began circulating with all types of people including Nazi government officials. Straight said it subsequently became clear to him that Burgess had been recruited and had gone underground.

He recalled that after graduation from Cambridge, Burgess worked for the British Broadcasting Company. Straight again said although Professor Blunt never specifically admitted it to him, Straight, was convinced in his own mind that Burgess was behind Blunt's recruitment of Straight.

Straight recalled that Burgess came to the United States in about 1940, called him in Washington, D. C., and they had lunch together at Little Garden Tea House. He said during lunch Burgess made the statement "I am completely out of touch with my friends, could you put me in touch?" Straight interpreted this to mean that Burgess was out of touch with "Green's counterparts" in England and thinking that Straight was still cooperating and would be able to arrange for Burgess to be recontacted. Straight said he merely accepted this statement made no comment and changed the subject.

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RE: MICHAEL WHITNEY STRAIGHT

Straight commented he could have furnished the name of Alexander Koral but did not do so. He said that Burgess had supper at Straight's house that night, but Straight recalled the evening as one of tenseness and said he was very unpleasant to Burgess on this occasion. Straight said he did not report his meeting Burgess to any authorities and did not believe he told Green about it either.

Straight said he next saw Burgess in England in about 1946, when he went to England on personal business. At this time, Straight attended a meeting of "Conversazione Society" at which Burgess spoke. He said Burgess and Professor Blunt expressed a desire to talk to him and they met in a club where Burgess was a member. He said Burgess and Blunt asked him how he stood and according to Straight a bitter argument ensued, Straight expressing his complete disillusionment with everything Russian and Communist.

Straight recalled that on this trip to England he had met with Harry Pollitt, British Communist leader, and discussed the American proposal to share atomic energy which he thought was a generous and magnificent gesture which could be used in the furtherance of peace. He said he had first contacted Margot Heinemann, who had been the girl friend of his friend John Cornford, and who was then highly placed in the British Communist Party, and Heinemann suggested he discuss the matter with Pollitt.

Straight recalled that in early 1947 he was in England and was associated with Henry A. Wallace who was deeply involved in the peace effort. One day while walking into Parliament he accidentally ran into Burgess who invited him to lunch and they had luncheon at the Savoy. Burgess told Straight he was working as secretary of Hector MacNeill, member of the British Parliament, and an important man in foreign affairs. Straight said during the luncheon he told Burgess that America was approaching the feeling of complete frustration with the Soviets and the latter were inviting a terrible clash. Burgess inquired if he could impart this to his friends and Straight said he could. Straight inferred Burgess had reference to Soviet principals.

Straight related that in 1951 or 1952 he had visited the British Embassy in Washington, D. C., and as he emerged from the Embassy he ran into Burgess who turned and rode downtown with Straight.

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RE: MICHAEL WHITNEY STRAIGHT

Burgess wanted to borrow a car but Straight said he turned down the request of Burgess. Straight said Burgess informed that he was connected with the British Embassy and engaged in some special work not identified further. Straight said Burgess seemed different, whether by design or otherwise; and recalled Burgess discussed the recovery efforts of the European countries and favored American aid to further this recovery. Straight said he told Burgess he should resign from service with the British government and if he did not do so within three months he would report him to the British authorities. Shortly thereafter, Burgess did leave the British government and fled to Russia. Straight said he had no specific information to what caused Burgess to defect and flee.

Straight related that his brother, Whitney Straight, is Executive Vice President of Rolls Royce and during a visit to Moscow, Russia, about February, 1963, he had talked with Burgess who appeared glad to see Whitney and sent Michael his best regards. Straight explained the meeting came about at a press conference at which inquiry was made whether any of the British present knew Burgess and when Whitney indicated he did know Burgess the latter appeared almost immediately. Straight advised Burgess and his brother discussed general matters and recalled nothing of intelligence significance.

Straight was asked why he had not reported Burgess and the other matters to FBI and said he had considered doing so on many occasions but was afraid. He said he was mindful of the experiences of Whitaker Chambers and Elizabeth Bentley and could not bear the publicity of hearings and trials, with resultant injury to his wife and five children. Straight said on two or three occasions he tried to force himself to visit the British Embassy and did so once. He said he went to the British Information Service and indicated he knew Guy Burgess and the unknown man on duty told him there were many witnesses who knew Burgess and did not pursue the matter so Straight departed without relating any pertinent facts. Straight said he is glad now that he has divulged the information and is willing to answer any questions to the best of his ability.

In connection with the above, Straight stated in about 1940 he had informed his wife of the facts reported herein up to that date, and in 1948 Belinda Straight had furnished the names of

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RE: MICHAEL WHITNEY STRAIGHT

Anthony Blunt and Guy Burgess to her analyst Dr. Jennie Welderhall, wife of FNU Hall, an official of the British Embassy at Washington, D.C., as two individuals engaged in underground Communist activity; in order that the information could be passed on to Mr. Hall and the British government.

Straight was asked if, during his early residence in Washington, D. C., he recalled ever having become a member of or contributed to any Communist front organization, and was specifically asked concerning the American Peace Mobilization (APM) and the Washington Committee for Democratic (WCDA) Action. He said he has no recollection of being a member of these or any other similar organization, but stated it is possible he had contributed to such an organization in the event he had been asked to do so. Concerning the Washington Book Shop Association (WBA), Straight said he recalled going to their office, located, as he recalled on 17th Street and signing some sort of agreement whereby he received a reduced rate on books.

The APM, WCDA and the WBA have been designated by the Attorney General of the United States, pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

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September 11, 1969

BY LIAISON

Honorable John D. Ehrlichman
Counsel to the President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

1 - Mrs. Brown
1 - Mr. Sullivan
1 - Mr. Gale
1 - Mr. Cleveland
1 - Mr. Fisher

EX-117
OK 2-9-88
247561

SP8 BTJ/CL

Dear Mr. Ehrlichman:

In accordance with your request received on August 27, 1969, an investigation has been conducted concerning Mr. Michael Whitney Straight. Transmitted herewith is a summary memorandum containing the results of this investigation.

The White House was previously furnished a summary memorandum containing the results of investigation conducted concerning Mr. Straight prior to December, 1950. The enclosed summary memorandum covers the period since December, 1950.

The Internal Revenue Service has advised that income tax returns were timely filed by Mr. Straight for the years 1965, 1966, and 1967, and there is no record of unpaid taxes, liens, or intelligence investigations concerning these returns.

Information has been received from two governmental agencies* indicating checks of their files have not been completed. When these checks have been completed, you will be advised.

EX-117 REC-23 161-6678-23
RECORDED

The investigation of Mr. Straight covered inquiries in the continental United States as to his character, loyalty, ability, and general standing, but no inquiries were made as to the sources of his income.

4 OCT 23 1969

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Upon removal of the classified enclosures, this communication becomes unclassified.

Tolson _____
DeLoach _____
Mohr _____
Bishop _____
Casper _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
Felt _____
Gale _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

*Naval Investigative

Service, Naval Intelli-
gence Command: [redacted]

[redacted]

BPF:lsk (7)
Enclosures (2)

NOTE: See memo Cleveland to Gale re
Michael Whitney Straight, SPI-White House

54 OCT 1969
MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

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Letter and summary dassi-
fied ~~confidential~~ as
summary contains informa-
tion from confidential
informants whose disclosure
could be detrimental to the
security of the United
States.

9-10-69, BPF:mgh. 115210
Return to Mr. Fisher, Room 1260.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

September 10, 1969

~~Classified by SP8BTS/CAL~~
~~Declassify on: OADR 12-9-88~~

~~MICHAEL WHITNEY STRAIGHT~~

SUMMARY

This summary memorandum covers the period since December, 1950. Mr. Straight was born on September 1, 1916, in Southampton, New York.

Employment

Mr. Straight continues to serve as President, William C. Whitney Foundation, New York, New York. He continued to serve as a contributing editor to the magazine "New Republic," New York, New York, until approximately 1956. The "New Republic" is self-described as "A Journal of Opinion."

Mr. Straight is also engaged on a full-time basis as trustee in charge of his family's estate.

In addition to the aforementioned employments, Mr. Straight has written several books. These books are described as being primarily historical novels.

He is now or has been a member of numerous social, civic, and professional organizations. He is now serving or has served in the past on the governing boards of some of these organizations. Among these organizations are the American Veterans Committee, the Amnesty International of the United States of America, the National Parks Association, the Washington Theater Club, and the Washington, D. C., chapter of the Legal Defense Fund of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, all Washington, D. C.

Marital Status

Mr. Straight and the former Belinda Crompton were married on September 10, 1939. The records of Washoe County Court, Reno, Nevada, disclose Belinda Crompton Straight was granted a divorce from Mr. Straight on August 27, 1969, on the grounds of incompatibility. The records contain no information of a derogatory nature.

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Holmes _____
Gandy _____

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MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

~~ENCLOSURE~~
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
~~Excluded from automatic~~
~~downgrading and declassification~~
~~RETURN TO MR. FISHER, ROOM 1260.~~

~~ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED~~
~~HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED~~
~~EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN~~
~~OTHERWISE.~~

161-6678-23

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Michael Whitney Straight

Mrs. Belinda C. Straight, Washington, D. C., advised she obtained a divorce from Mr. Straight in Reno, Nevada, in August, 1969, on the grounds of incompatibility. Mrs. Straight stated that prior to the Spring of 1969, she and Mr. Straight and their five children maintained a residence at 3017 N Street, Northwest, Washington, D. C. She added she has since moved to 4707 Fulton Street, Northwest, Washington, D. C., and Mr. Straight is currently occupying his summer home located in Chilmark, Martha's Vineyard, Massachusetts.

Mrs. Straight advised she would vouch for Mr. Straight's character, associates, reputation, and loyalty. She stated she would recommend him most highly for a position of trust and responsibility.

Mr. Straight and his son, David, reside on State Road, Chilmark, Martha's Vineyard, Massachusetts. When in Washington, D. C., Mr. Straight resides at The Watergate Hotel, 2650 Virginia Avenue, Northwest, Washington, D. C. Mr. Straight also maintains an estate located on Green Spring Road, Alexandria, Virginia.

Military Service

He continued to serve in the United States Army Officers' Reserve Corps, inactive service, until April 1, 1953, when his appointment as a second lieutenant was terminated by reason of declination of an indefinite term. His service record is clear.

Interviews

June A. Willenz, National Executive Chairman, American Veterans Committee, Washington, D. C., advised she was first associated with Mr. Straight over twenty years ago during the initial organization of the American Veterans Committee. She stated she has had frequent contact with Mr. Straight through the ensuing years. Mrs. Willenz related Mr. Straight served as National Chairman of the American Veterans Committee from 1952 to 1954 and is presently serving as a member of the National Board of Directors of this organization. She stated Mr. Straight is a remarkable individual who has demonstrated decided leadership ability and will make "a magnificent addition to any administration."

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Michael Whitney Straight

She described him as being strongly anticommunist. She explained by stating a number of years ago communist elements attempted on a number of occasions to take over the American Veterans Committee. She advised Mr. Straight was primarily responsible for thwarting the attempts by the communist elements to take over this organization. Mrs. Willenz described Mr. Straight as a man of knowledge and devotion who is completely trustworthy and dependable. She said Mr. Straight's character, associates, and loyalty are above reproach. Mrs. Willenz concluded by stating she feels Mr. Straight is an exemplary person and she would recommend him without any qualification for a position of trust and responsibility.

Harriett K. Evison, New York, New York, advised she has known Mr. Straight and members of his family for approximately thirty-seven years. She related she formerly worked for Mr. Straight's mother as a social secretary and subsequently she was employed as an assistant secretary-treasurer, William C. Whitney Foundation, New York, New York. Mrs. Evison described Mr. Straight as being top-notch in every respect. She said Mr. Straight is a philanthropist and concerned primarily with helping people and has given large sums of money to needy organizations. She advised Mr. Straight is well respected in professional and social circles and is noted for his authorship of historical novels. Mrs. Evison stated she would recommend Mr. Straight and his family without any hesitation regarding their character, reputation, loyalty, and associates. She stated she felt Mr. Straight would be a valuable asset to the Federal Government and would highly recommend him for a position of trust and confidence.

Ernest W. Kulka, M.D., New York, New York, interviewed in Vinalhaven, Maine, advised he has been closely associated with Mr. Straight and his family for at least thirty years. He stated Mr. Straight is engaged in writing novels and is also President of the William C. Whitney Foundation, New York, New York, which is a philanthropic foundation founded by Mr. Straight's family. Dr. Kulka described Mr. Straight as being an extremely intelligent and capable individual. He stated Mr. Straight's honesty, integrity, loyalty, character, and associates have always been above reproach. He stated he would highly recommend Mr. Straight for a position of trust and responsibility with the United States Government.

Alice Winchester, Editor, "Antiques," New York, New York, advised the "Antiques" magazine has been owned by the Straight family since about 1930. She stated she has been associated with

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~~Michael Whitney Straight~~

Mr. Straight for about thirty years, relating that the "Antiques" magazine and the "New Republic" magazine formerly shared the same office space in New York, New York. Miss Winchester said Mr. Straight and his family are regarded as exceptionally nice people. She described Mr. Straight as a capable, intelligent, competent, and responsible individual who is definitely a patriotic American. She advised she would highly recommend Mr. Straight for a position of trust and responsibility.

Milton C. Rose, Senior Partner, Mudge, Rose, Guthrie, and Alexander, law firm, New York, New York, advised the William C. Whitney Foundation is a client of this law firm. He stated the William C. Whitney Foundation is a charitable organization created by Mr. Straight's parents in memory of his grandfather, William C. Whitney. Mr. Rose related Mr. Straight has served as President of this foundation since its inception in 1937.

Mr. Rose advised Mr. Straight devotes his time primarily to writing novels and handling his duties as trustee in charge of his family's estate. He described Mr. Straight as being an extremely capable person of unusual ability. He stated Mr. Straight is an imaginative, original thinker who is engaged in various philanthropic enterprises. He said Mr. Straight has always exhibited an interest in the fine arts and is a collector of paintings and sculptures. Mr. Rose concluded by stating Mr. Straight's and his family's reputation, character, associates, and loyalty are above reproach. He said he would highly recommend Mr. Straight for a position of trust and responsibility with the United States Government.

Jacob K. Javits, United States Senator from New York, interviewed in Washington, D. C., advised he has known Mr. Straight for many years and considers him to be a personal friend. He stated he has attended many social and public functions with Mr. Straight in both New York, New York, and Washington, D. C. Senator Javits described Mr. Straight as an intelligent and capable person who is interested in the arts. He said Mr. Straight is an excellent writer and is completely loyal to the United States. He related Mr. Straight is anticommunist and has used his influence to thwart the communist movement. He said he would give Mr. Straight his highest personal recommendation for a position of trust and responsibility with the Federal Government.

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Michael Whitney Straight

Charles E. Goodell, United States Senator from New York, interviewed in Washington, D. C., advised he knows Mr. Straight primarily by reputation. He stated he is aware of Mr. Straight's writing and knows Mr. Straight enjoys an excellent reputation. Senator Goodell related he believes Mr. Straight is completely loyal to the United States and he would recommend him for apposition of trust.

Twenty-two additional persons, consisting of social acquaintances, co-workers, neighbors, and professional associates were interviewed. They furnished favorable comments concerning Mr. Straight's character, reputation, loyalty, morals, ability, and associates. Persons well acquainted with him stated he is a dependable, trustworthy, and intelligent person. He was recommended for a position of trust and confidence. Persons acquainted with the other members of Mr. Straight's family advised they are all reputable individuals.

Close Relatives

In addition to his former wife and son, mentioned previously, Mr. Straight has the following close relatives:

Father	Willard Dickerman Straight deceased
Mother	Dorothy Whitney Straight Elmhurst deceased
Stepfather	Leonard Knight Elmhurst Totnes, England
Son	Michael Willard Straight United States Navy
Daughter	Susan Romilly Straight Washington, D. C.
Daughter	Diana Dorothy Straight Washington, D. C.
Daughter	Dorothy Elmhurst Straight Washington, D. C.

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Michael Whitney Straight

Brother

Whitney Willard Straight
London, England

Sister

MRS LOUIS DOLIVET
Beatrice Straight *DOLIVET*
BEATRICE COOKSON *NEE STRAIGHT*
New York, New York

Half brother

MRS PETER COOKSON
William Knight Elmhurst
London, England

Half sister

Ruth Elmhurst Ash
Totnes, England

Credit and Arrest Checks

Information has been received from the appropriate credit reporting agencies in the continental United States indicating their files contain either no record or no additional pertinent information concerning Mr. Straight.

Information has been received from the appropriate law enforcement agencies in the continental United States indicating their files contain no information concerning Mr. Straight or his close relatives, except, the following:

The records of the Fairfax County Police Department, Fairfax, Virginia, disclose Mr. Straight's former wife, Belinda C. Straight, on March 27, 1964, was charged with a traffic violation (failure to obey highway sign). She elected to forfeit collateral in the amount of \$22.75. On April 25, 1964, she was charged with a traffic violation (speeding) and she elected to forfeit collateral in the amount of \$17.75.

The records of the Fairfax County Police Department, Fairfax, Virginia, also disclose Mr. Straight's daughter, Susan R. Straight, on December 22, 1965, was charged with a traffic violation (failure to obey traffic officer). She elected to forfeit collateral in the amount of \$22.75.

- 6 -

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

115216

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Michael Whitney Straight

Passport Record

The records of the Passport Office, Department of State, Washington, D. C., disclose Mr. Straight has been issued several passports since 1930 for travel to Europe for the purposes of study, pleasure, and business. The last passport was issued on July 18, 1967, for a proposed three-week business and pleasure trip to Europe. The records contain no additional pertinent information.

Miscellaneous

Information Concerning Mr. Straight

The December 6, 1952, issue of the "Times-Herald," a Washington, D. C., newspaper, reported that Michael Straight, president of the William C. Whitney Foundation, was questioned before a special committee of the United States House of Representatives investigating tax-exempt foundations. According to the article, Mr. Straight was questioned concerning \$19,000 in grants by the Foundation which were made to organizations "cited as subversive or Communist fronts. Straight contended that none of these organizations was known to be a Communist front at the time grants were given and said they were not listed."

In 1955, Michael Straight, Publisher, "The New Republic," was listed as a signer of "A Petition to the President of the United States on Amnesty for Smith Act Victims and Postponement of Trials."

Since 1963, Mr. Straight has been contacted by the FBI on a number of occasions and he has furnished information concerning his association with communist groups in England and his contacts with a Russian espionage apparatus after his return to the United States. These activities occurred during the late 1930's and the early 1940's. The enclosed communication sets forth the results of a June 18, 1963, interview with Mr. Straight. 100-61929-64

Information Concerning Daughter, Susan Romilly Straight

Mr. Straight, in 1967, advised his daughter, Susan Romilly Straight, while attending Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, in 1966, had associated with a group of students which was affiliated in general with the Students for a Democratic Society.

- 7 -
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

115217

CONFIDENTIAL

Michael Whitney Straight

The Students for a Democratic Society is a pro-Marxist and anarchistic organization which has been deeply involved in campus revolts and anti-Vietnam demonstrations in the United States.

Mr. Straight's daughter, Susan, was one of three persons observed on September 19, 1967, placing handbills on cars located in the parking lot of the Pentagon Building, Arlington, Virginia. The handbills carried the wording, "Exercise the Pentagon, 10/21-22," also an artist's drawing of a figure of a female and the words "Martin Carey - Artist." On instructions of the United States Attorney's Office, Alexandria, Virginia, these individuals were released by the Pentagon Building Police Department.

The name Sue Straight was included on a list of those in attendance at the National Mobilization Committee to End the War in Vietnam, Administrative Committee Meeting, which was held on October 7, 1967, in New York, New York.

Information Concerning Former Brother-in-law, Louis Dolivet

Mr. Straight's sister, Beatrice, married Louis Dolivet on February 21, 1941, and as of September, 1950, they reportedly were separated. In about 1966, Mr. Straight's sister married Peter Cookson.

Informants, who have furnished reliable information in the past, advised that in early 1930 Louis Dolivet was an active international Communist agent in Europe. He was ~~also~~ active in several ~~Communist~~ organizations in France and Switzerland. Louis Dolivet was reportedly a close associate of Willie Muenzenberg, an admitted Soviet agent in Europe, who was reportedly assassinated by the Communists. Since his arrival in the United States in 1939, Louis Dolivet is not known to have engaged in espionage activities or Communist subversive activities. His employers recommended ~~(S)~~ (U)

- 8 -

CONFIDENTIAL

115218

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Michael Whitney Straight

him as being pro-American, and Anti-Soviet. Other informants are of the opinion that Louis Dolivet is an inactive, but highly placed, Soviet Agent. (U)

Informants, who have furnished reliable information in the past and who are acquainted with some phases of communist activity in the Washington, D. C., New York, New York, and Massachusetts areas, were contacted and they advised they were unable to furnish any additional pertinent information concerning Mr. Straight or members of his family.

Agency Checks

Information has been received from the following governmental agencies indicating their files contain either no record or no additional pertinent information concerning Mr. Straight:

Bureau of Personnel Investigations,
Civil Service Commission; House
Committee on Internal Security;
Office of Security, Department of
State; Defense Central Index of
Investigations, and United States
Army Investigative Records Repository,
Fort Holabird, Maryland; National
Security Agency, Fort George G. Meade,
Maryland; United States Atomic Energy
Commission; United States Secret Service;
and the White House Office.

The central files of the FBI, including the files of the Identification Division, contain no additional pertinent information concerning Mr. Straight.

Enclosure

- 9 -

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

115219

Routing Slip
FD-4 (Rev. 4-28-67)

Date 5/12

To:

☐ Director

FILE

Att.:

☐ SAC

Title MICHAEL WITNEY STRAIGHT

☐ ASAC

☒ Supv.

☐ Agent

☐ SE

☐ IC

RE:

☐ CC

☐ Steno

☐ Clerk

☐ Rotor #:

ACTION DESIRED

☐ Acknowledge

☐ Open Case

☐ Assign Reassign

☐ Prepare lead cords

☐ Bring file

☐ Prepare tickler

☐ Call me

☐ Return assignment card

☐ Correct

☐ Return file

☐ Deadline

☐ Search and return

☐ Deadline passed

☐ See me

☐ Delinquent

☐ Serial #

☐ Discontinue

☐ Post ☐ Recharge ☐ Return

☐ Expedite

☐ Send to

☐ File

☐ Submit new charge out

☐ For information

☐ Submit report by

☐ Handle

☐ Type

☐ Initial & return

NOT RECORDED

☐ Leads need attention

18 OCT 24 1969

☐ Return with explanation or notation as to action taken.

Attached article
from Times-Herald-W.D.C.
pg 16, 12/6/52

2 ENCLOSURE

SAC

See reverse side

ENCLOSURE ATTACHED

54 OCT 29 1969

115223

395

ENCLOSURE

161-1678-25 115224

16

FIELD SURPRISED BY RED FRONTS USING HIS NAME

Says Foundation Gave
Cash Unwittingly

BY JOHN FISHER

Marshall Field yesterday expressed surprise to congressional investigators that he had been listed as sponsor of two organizations cited as Communist fronts.

He also defended two directors of the Field Foundation, of which he is president, against congressional charges they have been connected with numerous subversive organizations, as well as grants made by his foundation to Communist front organizations.

Field, grandson of the Chicago merchant, and president of Field Enterprises, Inc., publishers of the Chicago Sun-Times, appeared before the special House committee, headed by Rep. Carl Albert, investigating lax exempt educational and philanthropic organizations, as to whether they have been financing subversive activities.

The multi-millionaire founded the Chicago Sun, which later merged with the Chicago Times, and also founded PM, the New York evening daily, now defunct.

Name on Letterheads

Harold M. Keels, committee counsel, brought out that Field himself has been listed as a sponsor on the letterheads of two organizations since named as Communist fronts by the House committee on un-American activities.

They were a letterhead of the American Committee for Yugoslav Relief of Aug. 8, 1945, and another letterhead of Sept. 17, 1941, of the Chicago council of the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship.

Keels asked Field about these organizations—and the circumstances of his sponsorship.

Field said the Chicago outfit used his name without his permission and when it was called to his attention "I wrote them a letter telling them to take my name off."

As for the American committee for Yugoslav relief, Field said:

"I was told by reliable sources that it was a bona fide relief organization. At that time it sounded to me like a perfectly all right purpose. Two or three ladies I knew in New York were active in it."

The foundation directors defended by Field were Dr. Channing Tobias, a Negro, identified by Keels as having belonged to 18 Communist front organizations, as cited by congressional investigating committees and the attorney general, and Judge Justice Nina Poller of the New York City court of domestic relations.

Keels said the woman judge has been connected with the National Lawyers guild, the National Political association, and various other groups cited as Communist fronts.

Field said that he has "great respect for Dr. Tobias and considers him an outstanding leader of his race."

"I think he resigned from all those things sometime ago when he discovered they had been taken over and got on the attorney general's list," Field said.

As for Judge Poller, Field said she's one of the nation's "greatest experts on children's courts" and "I never found any Communist tendencies in her."

Keels Lack of Facts

Keels developed testimony that the Field Foundation since 1941 has contributed \$12,750 to organizations accused of communistic or subversive activities. They included grants of \$1,500 in 1941 to The Open Road, Inc., which operated student field trips to Europe; \$1,500 in 1942 and 1944 to the Peoples Institute of Applied Religion, Inc., Evansville, Ind.; \$1,250 in 1945 to the Institute of Pacific Relations, accused by the McCarran Senate internal security subcommittee of being used by Communists and fellow travelers to influence government policy on China and Asia; and grants totaling \$7,500 in 1942 and 1945 to the Southern Conference for Human Welfare.

Pleads Lack of Facts

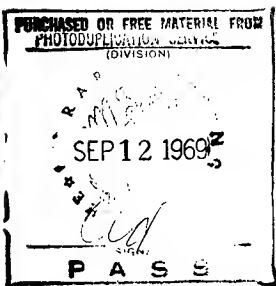
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Field said that the foundation had considered all these organizations as engaged in worthwhile projects in line with the foundation's policy of concentrating upon the social sciences. He said the foundation was not aware that these organizations were considered subversive when the grants were made.

Field said that his foundation has assets of between 11 and 12 million dollars, with an income of \$600,000 to \$700,000 a year. He said members of his family are on the board but do not control it.

The committee also heard testimony from Michael W. Straight, editor of the leftwing magazine New Republic and president of the William C. Whitely Foundation on \$19,000 in grants given to organizations cited as subversive or Communist fronts.

Straight contended that none of these organizations was known to be a Communist front at the time grants were given and said they were cut off when so listed.



161-64-78-25

115227

16

FIELD SURPRISED BY RED FRONTS USING HIS NAME

Says Foundation Gave
Cash Unwittingly

BY JOHN FISHER

Marshall Field yesterday expressed surprise to congressional investigators that he had been listed as sponsor of two organizations vited as Communist fronts. He also defended two directors of the Field Foundation, of which he is president, against congressional charges they have been connected with numerous subversive organizations, as well as grants made by his foundation to Communist front organizations. Field, grandson of the Chicago merchant, and president of Field Enterprises, Inc., publishers of the Chicago Sun-Times, appeared before the special House committee, headed by Rep. Cox of Georgia, investigating tax-exempt educational and philanthropic organizations, as to whether they have been financing subversive activities.

The multi-millionaire founded the Chicago Sun, which later merged with the Chicago Times, and also founded PM, the New York leftwing daily, now defunct.

Names on Letterheads

Harold M. Keels, committee counsel, brought out that Field himself has been listed as a sponsor on the letterheads of two organizations since named as Communist fronts by the House committee on un-American activities. They were a letterhead of the American Committee for Yugoslav Relief of Aug. 6, 1945, and another letterhead of Sept. 17, 1951, of the Chicago council of the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship.

Keels asked Field about these organizations and the circumstances of his sponsorship.

Field said the Chicago outfit used his name without his permission and when it was called to his attention "I wrote them a letter telling them to take my name off."

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"I was told by reliable sources that it was a bona fide relief organization. At that time it sounded to me like a perfectly all right purpose. Two or three ladies I knew in New York were active in it."

The foundation directors, defended by Field were Dr. Channing Tobias, a Negro, identified by Keels as having belonged to 42 Communist front organizations, as cited by congressional investigating committees with the attorney general and Judge Justice Weis.

Polier of the New York City court of domestic relations.

Keels said the woman judge has been connected with the National Lawyers guild, the National Political association, and various other groups cited as Communist fronts.

Field said that he has "great respect for Dr. Tobias and considers him an outstanding leader of his race."

"I think he resigned from all those things sometime ago when he discovered they had been taken over and got on the attorney general's list," Field said.

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The committee also heard testimony from Michael W. Straight, editor of the leftwing magazine New Republic and president of the William C. Whitney Foundation on \$19,000 in grants given to organizations cited as subversive or Communist fronts.

Straight contended that none of these organizations was known to be a Communist front at the time grants were given and said they were cut off when so listed.

161-6478-25

11/2/90

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : MR. TOLSON

DATE: 9/18/69

FROM : C. D. DeLoach

cc Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Gale

SUBJECT: MICHAEL WHITNEY STRAIGHT
SPECIAL INQUIRY - WHITE HOUSE

Tolson _____
DeLoach _____
Bishop _____
Casper _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
Felt _____
Gale _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Candy _____

Egil "Bud" Krogh called me from John Ehrlichman's office at the White House on 9/17/69. He made reference to captioned individual and stated he thought this individual had formerly been employed by the FBI. He added that, while he had read the special inquiry report submitted to the White House 9/10/69, he nevertheless thought that if this individual had been employed by the FBI a further look could be given to appointing this man to the position of Deputy Chairman of the National Council on the Arts.

After checking I called Krogh back and told him that this individual was never employed by the FBI. I stated that a number of administrations had sought to employ this man and, as a matter of fact, Bobby Kennedy had sent this man over to the FBI in June of 1963 to be interviewed relative to his questionable background. I stated we did interview Straight at that time; however, under no circumstances had we ever hired him. Kennedy's effort in sending this man over to the FBI was merely an attempt to get this man's record straightened out.

Krogh stated that under the circumstances he planned to recommend to Ehrlichman that this man not be hired.

Our Special Inquiry report of 9/10/69, backed up by Bureau files, reflects an investigation from 1941 to 1943 based on this individual's reported Communist Party activities. He was editor and publisher of the "New Republic," following World War II. This magazine was founded by his father and mother. Although he allegedly denounced communism after World War II, he was still regarded as an extreme liberal. He had a number of relationships with Guy Burgess, the English Foreign Office employee who defected to the Russians. Files do not reflect any employment of Straight on the part of the Kennedy administration.

ACTION - For record purposes.

340
4 OCT 29 1969 CDD:CSH (3)

NOT RECORDED

OCT 23 1969

115231

F B I

Date: 9/22/69

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via A I R T E L _____
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, ALEXANDRIA (161-176)(P)

MICHAEL WHITNEY STRAIGHT
SPI

BUDED PAST

Re Alexandria airtel 9/12/69.

NIS check on appointee still outstanding; case being
closely followed and Bureau will be promptly advised
when NIS records become available for review.

161-6678-27
NOT RECORDED
3 SEP 28 1969

1 - Bureau
2 - Alexandria
HEW:asd

(3)

54 OCT 28 1969
Approved: _____
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____ 115232

F B I

Date: 9/23/69

Transmit the following in _____

(Type in plaintext or code)


A I R T E L

Via _____

(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, ALEXANDRIA (161-176) (RUC)

 MICHAEL WHITNEY STRAIGHT
SPI

Re Alexandria airtel to Bureau dated 9/12/69.

On 9/22/69, NISO Headquarters file was reviewed by SA MAURICE M. CARROLL concerning the appointee. File contained CSC report dated 4/29/65, indicating that STRAIGHT had possibly been connected with the CP in the 1930s and 1940s, such information being obtained by CSC from the FBI. NISO files also reveal background investigation completed on MICHAEL WILLARD STRAIGHT (appointee's son) on 3/12/68, when no derogatory information developed concerning him. At that time STRAIGHT was an Ensign, U.S. Naval Reserve, file #715018. The file indicates that an CSC/FBI investigation was completed in June 1965 on him at the request of USIA where he was seeking summer employment. File also contains a report dated 1/17/68, concerning an interview with former U.S. Senator PAUL A. DOUGLAS in which DOUGLAS stated he would stake his reputation on MICHAEL WILLARD STRAIGHT's loyalty. No additional pertinent information noted in file.

- (1) - Bureau
1 - Alexandria (161-176)

HEW:kma
(2)161-6678-28
NOT RECORDED

17 SEP 24 1969

Approved: 

Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____

M

Per _____

Spec. Inv.

54 OCT 29 1969

115233

1 - Mrs. Brown
1 - Mr. Sullivan
1 - Mr. Gale
1 - Mr. Cleveland
September 29, 1969

BY LIAISON

1 - Mr. Fischer

Honorable John D. Ehrlichman
Counsel to the President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Ehrlichman:

Reference is made to my letter dated
September 11, 1969, which furnished you the results
of investigation conducted concerning Mr. Michael Whitney
Straight.

Enclosed herewith is a summary memorandum
containing the results of additional investigation
concerning Mr. Straight.

This completes the investigation in this matter.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

REC-23

EX-117

RECORDED

4 OCT 23 1969

Enclosure

NOTE: Summary memorandum concerning Mr. Straight furnished
White House on September 11, 1969. Investigation indicates
Mr. Straight has not been associated with his former
brother-in-law, Louis Dolivet, in over twenty years. Louis
Dolivet was described as an active European communist agent
in early 1930's and some informants consider him to be an
inactive, but highly placed, Soviet agent. Review of books
written by Mr. Straight set forth.

Tolson _____
DeLoach _____
Mohr _____
Bishop _____
Casper _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
Felt _____
Gale _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

BPF:blm

(7)

Return to Mr. Fischer, Room 1260/

115234

54 OCT 29 1969

TELETYPE UNIT ☐

Copy to State
5/4/71
Dyl/cse

An Applicant-type investigation was conducted in 9/69 concerning the captioned individual. The results of this investigation were furnished to the White House. For detailed results of this investigation, see are referred to Butterfield in the White House.

September 29, 1969

USIA 111-29-71

12/10/71

MICHAEL WHITNEY STRAIGHT

SUMMARY

Information in this memorandum supplements that which appears in a summary memorandum dated September 10, 1969.

[redacted] and the Naval Investigative Service, Naval Intelligence Command, contain no additional pertinent information concerning Mr. Straight. [redacted] contain no pertinent identifiable information concerning Mr. Straight's following close relatives:

Mother	Dorothy Whitney Straight de Elmhurst, deceased
Stepfather	Leonard Knight Elmhurst Totnes, England
Brother	Whitney Willard Straight London, England
Half brother	William Knight Elmhurst London, England
Half sister	^{WEE} Ruth Elmhurst Ash Totnes, England

Investigation indicates Mr. Straight has not associated with his former brother-in-law, Louis Dolivet, in over twenty years. Louis Dolivet reportedly resides in Paris, France, and travels to the United States once or twice a year on business. Louis Dolivet reportedly has no

Tolson _____
DeLoach _____
Mohr _____
Bishop _____
Casper _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
Felt _____
Gale _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

BPF:blm

Return to Mr. Fischer, Room 1260.

MAIL ROOM ☐

TELETYPE UNIT ☐

115235

161-6678-29

Michael Whitney Straight

social or business associations with Mr. Straight. Information concerning Louis Dolivet is set forth on page eight of summary memorandum dated September 10, 1969.

The records of the Library of Congress, Washington, D. C., list Mr. Straight as being the author of the following books:

"Make this the Last War"

This book was published in 1943, and according to a book review, it calls for a federated Europe and holds that unless there is a fundamental change in the social structure of Europe, there will be no basis for a European federation. The book review states Mr. Straight is a "145 percent New Dealer" and he would retain war-time emergency measures long after the end of the war.

"Trial by Television"

This book was published in 1954. According to a book review, Mr. Straight gives a forthright interpretation concerning the "Army-McCarthy Hearings." The book review indicates Senator McCarthy's friends would not like the book.

"Carrington"

This book was published in 1960. The book deals with the ambush and massacre of 180 men under the command of Lieutenant Colonel W. J. Fetterman in Wyoming on December 21, 1886.

"A Very Small Remnant"

This book which was published in 1963 is described in the book reviews as a historical novel based on United States behavior toward the Indians.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20535

September 29, 1969

MICHAEL WHITNEY STRAIGHT

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Brother	Whitney Willard Straight London, England
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Investigation indicates Mr. Straight has not associated with his former brother-in-law, Louis Dolivet, in over twenty years. Louis Dolivet reportedly resides in Paris, France, and travels to the United States once or twice a year on business. Louis Dolivet reportedly has no

Michael Whitney Straight

social or business associations with Mr. Straight. Information concerning Louis Dolivet is set forth on page eight of summary memorandum dated September 10, 1969.

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"A Very Small Remnant"

This book which was published in 1963 is described in the book reviews as a historical novel based on United States behavior toward the Indians.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

Tolson ☒
DeLoach ☒
Mohr ☒
Bishop ☒
Casper ☒
Callahan ☒
Conrad ☒
Felt ☒
Gale ☒
Rosen ☒
Sullivan ☒
Tavel ☒
Trotter ☒
Tele. Room ☒
Holmes ☒
Gandy ☒

TO : Mr. Tolson

FROM : C. D. DeLoach

DATE: 10-15-69

SUBJECT: MICHAEL WHITNEY STRAIGHT
SPECIAL INQUIRY - WHITE HOUSE

Leonard Garment, Special Consultant to the President, called at my office this morning regarding captioned individual and indicated the White House is still considering the question of whether or not Straight should be appointed to the position of Deputy Chairman of the National Council on the Arts.

My memorandum dated 9-18-69, attached, shows that the White House previously contacted me regarding Straight indicating they thought Straight had been employed by the FBI. They were told he was never employed by the FBI and that the first time we talked to this individual was in June, 1963, when Bobby Kennedy sent him to the FBI to be interviewed relative to his questionable background.

Garment stated he was entirely familiar with Straight's background but said Straight had told them that since 1963 he had cooperated fully with the FBI. I told Garment we had contacted Straight a number of times since his original admissions to us in 1963 regarding his Communist Party activities and his contacts with a Russian espionage apparatus. He was told that these contacts were for the purpose of filling out information regarding his admissions. Further, Straight did contact us on one occasion in 1969 to advise that he contemplated a short trip to Russia and he was concerned he might be contacted by the KGB in view of his past activities with the Soviets. On this occasion, he expressed a willingness to take any course of action suggested to him, but we told him we had no instructions with regard to his conduct in the USSR. He subsequently told us his trip was uneventful.

Garment advised that Peter M. Flanagan, Assistant to the President, had discussed Straight's possible appointment with Senators Karl E. Mundt (R. - South Dakota) and Gordon L. Enclosure

1 - Mr. DeLoach
1 - Mr. Gale

CDD:lsk
(3)

EX-117

REC-23

CONTINUED - OVER

4 OCT 23 1969

4 OCT 29 1969

115239

Memorandum to Mr. Tolson
Re: Michael Whitney Straight

Allott (R. - Colorado) and that Senator Mundt had reservations regarding the President affording Straight a Presidential appointment. Garment wanted to know whether the FBI would talk to Senator Mundt regarding this case if he contacted the Bureau and advise Senator Mundt that Straight had cooperated with the FBI since 1963.

I told Garment that we could not furnish any information to anyone concerning a prospective Presidential appointee in the absence of instructions from the White House to do so, since this is a hard-and-fast policy of the White House.

Garment indicated he understood this and that he, himself, would take the matter up with the White House.

ACTION:

For information.

SP
L. J. [unclear]
We will not intercede
with Mundt nor anyone
else. That is not our
function.
2

P

FBI WASH DC

FBI BALTO

634PM DEFERRED 9-5-69 AKM
TO DIRECTOR AND ALEXANDRIA
FROM BALTIMORE RUC

MICHAEL WHITNEY STRAIGHT SPI.

RE BUREAU TELETYPE TO WFO, AUGUST TWENTY SEVEN LAST.

ON SEPTEMBER FIVE

REVIEWED AND FOUND TO CONTAIN NO
PERTINENT INFORMATION CONCERNING APPOINTEE. DAVID
WILLARD STRAIGHT, SON OF APPOINTEE, IS PRESENTLY APPLICANT
AT NSA. AUGUST FOURTEEN LAST.

NO DEROGATORY INFORMATION DEVELOPED., CONCERNING THE SON,
WHO ALSO HAS APPLIED FOR EMPLOYMENT WITH CIA. MICHAEL
WILLARD STRAIGHT, DOB JULY FOURTEEN FORTY FOUR. US NAVAL
OFFICER, SON OF APPOINTEE, WAS, ACCORDING TO

ALEXANDRIA REVIEW NIS FILE FOR PERTINENT INFORMATION.

EXPEDITE. BUDED PAST.

END

NOV 10 1969

FBI WASH DC

Mr. Tolson
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Bishop
Mr. Casper
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. Felt
Mr. Gale
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Sullivan
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Tele. Room
Miss Holmes
Miss Gandy

CLEVELAND
100-1248

b3

OUT
NIS
1 son
8 father

161-6678-31

OCT 20 1969

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Tolson _____
 DeLoach _____
 Mohr _____
 Bishop _____
 Casper _____
 Callahan _____
 Conrad _____
 Felt _____
 Gale _____
 Rosen _____
 Sullivan _____
 Tavel _____
 Trotter _____
 Tele. Room _____
 Holmes _____
 Gandy _____

Arts Unit Chairman Named

Michael Straight, who lately was rumored for the chairmanship, will play a major role in the Arts Council under Miss Hanks' direction. He is being spoken of as a possible deputy.

Though the chairmanship is non-partisan and the council carefully apolitical, Straight's non-appointment to the top post is viewed as careful politics. Straight served as both editor and contributing editor for some years for the liberal New Republic Magazine. However, Straight is a scion of Long Island's Whitney family of staunch Republicans.

During his New Republic years, Straight regularly covered open meetings of the Arts Council and as regularly commented on its meager budgets.

The Washington Post Times Herald C-2
 The Washington Daily News _____
 The Evening Star (Washington) _____
 The Sunday Star (Washington) _____
 Daily News (New York) _____
 Sunday News (New York) _____
 New York Post _____
 The New York Times _____
 The Sun (Baltimore) _____
 The Daily World _____
 The New Leader _____
 The Wall Street Journal _____
 The National Observer _____
 People's World _____
 Examiner (Washington) _____

Date 9/4/69

NOT RECORDED

46 OCT 23 1969

57 NOV 3 1969

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